

SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

What was the most significant thing you learned from the sermon or something in the sermon you didn't quite understand?

INTRO

- Think of something you used to struggle to walk away from, or something that you struggled to quit. What finally made it possible for you to leave it behind?
- What's the difference between trying to change just by forcing yourself to stop versus changing because you actually want something better?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - COLOSSIANS 3:12-14

- Before Paul addresses what Christians are to put on, what three reasons does he give for why Christians are to clothe themselves this way?
- Discuss each virtue using the definition and/or Scripture reference provided:
 - Compassion: Deep concern that moves to action
 - Kindness: Matthew 11:30; Romans 2:4
 - Humility: Mark 10:45; Philippians 2:5-8
 - Gentleness: Strength under control
 - Patience: Longsuffering; Romans 2:4
- What is the standard or model Paul gives for how Christians should bear with and forgive one another?
- Read Romans 5:8 and 1 John 4:10 then discuss the following quote:

"Everyone thinks forgiveness is a lovely idea until he has something to forgive. To be Christians means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you." – C.S. Lewis

TAKEAWAYS

CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Romans 13:14; Colossians 3:9-10

- Are you relying more on self-improvement or on the Gospel to actually change you? How can you tell?
- Which virtue from Colossians 3:12–14 is most missing in your relationships right now?
- Is there an area of your life where you're telling Jesus, "I got this," instead of actually letting Him lead?

THE WORLD MUST KNOW WHOSE YOU ARE

Colossians 3:12; 1 Peter 2:9-10

- Is it at least publicly obvious that you belong to Christ? Why or why not?
- Is there someone you need to forgive?
- If someone watched how I treat _____, they might not know whose I am.
- If someone watched how I act at _____, they might not know- whose I am.
- If someone could see how I act when I am alone, would they know whose I am?
- Who is one person you will intentionally show the love of Christ to this week?