



COLOSSIANS 3 PART 3

It is entirely possible to put on a great spiritual outfit for an hour on Sunday morning, only to immediately change back into the comfortable rags of our flesh when we get into the car. But Pastor Steve reminds us that God is not looking for religion or rituals; He is looking for a relationship. Because we believe in the preeminence of Christ, our new life cannot be hidden. Being alive to the Word of God changes individuals, and that internal transformation will inevitably change our external relationships with others—especially within our own homes.

In Colossians 3, the Apostle Paul takes the theology of the "new self" and marches it directly into the kitchen, the bedroom, and the workplace. He shows us that profound spiritual realities are worked out in mundane moments: how a husband speaks to his wife, how a parent disciplines a child, and how an employee tackles a frustrating project. This study guide is designed to help you examine whether your heavenly focus is actively changing your earthly relationships.

Pastor Steve noted that as we drill down into Christ's example, everything He did was driven by love, which acts as the avenue to forgiveness and kindness. How does grounding your reactions in love change the way you handle interpersonal conflict? (OT: Proverbs 10:12 | NT: 1 Peter 4:8)

Study Questions:

1. True humility isn't thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less. How does the "humbleness of mind" described in the sermon differ from false modesty or low self-esteem? (OT: Proverbs 22:4 | NT: Romans 12:3)
2. The breakdown of the family unit is described as a clear sign of the end times. In what ways do you see the cultural traits of 2 Timothy 3 (lovers of self, unforgiving, unloving) eroding the modern family today? (OT: Micah 7:6 | NT: 2 Timothy 3:1-3)
3. The ultimate answer to strife in the home is a regenerated heart by all parties involved. Why are behavioral modifications and counseling insufficient if the individuals reject God's transforming power? (OT: Ezekiel 36:26 | NT: Romans 12:2)
4. Pastor Steve emphasizes there is "no statute of limitations" for modeling a godly home. If you have adult children, how can you continue to provide godly instruction and encouragement to them today? (OT: Proverbs 17:6 | NT: 2 Timothy 1:5)
5. When we serve Christ at our jobs, we bless our earthly employers, but our ultimate reward comes from our Heavenly Master. How does focusing on an eternal reward keep you from becoming bitter over a lack of earthly recognition? (OT: Genesis 15:1 | NT: Matthew 6:4)