

# When Work Isn't Just Work

## Leaving a Legacy Week 4 - 5 Day Devotional

### ***Day 1: A New Life in Christ***

Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

#### Devotional:

The foundation of our Christian journey is deeply rooted in the transformative power of Christ's resurrection. Paul reminds us that being "raised to new life with Christ" means reorienting our priorities. Our focus shifts from earthly concerns to heavenly realities. This new life is characterized by a mindset that seeks the things above, anchoring us to eternal values rather than transient worldly allurements. Our union with Christ, signified by the phrase "hidden with Christ in God," points to a secure, intimate relationship that sustains us even in the tumultuous ups and downs of life.

#### Application:

**Reflect** on areas in your life where you still hold onto earthly concerns over heavenly priorities. **Consider** writing these down and pray for God's guidance to shift your focus. **Set aside time each day** to meditate on the eternal promises found in Christ and let them inform your daily decisions. How can this perspective change the way you respond to challenges and opportunities today?

## ***Day 2: Dying to the Old Self***

Reading: Colossians 3:5-10

### **Devotional:**

The transformation in Christ calls for a deliberate severance from our earthly nature. This is not just about behavior modification, but a fundamental heart change—where the old self, characterized by destructive habits and thoughts, gives way to a new self molded in the image of the Creator. It's an ongoing renewal requiring vigilance and intentionality, as the remnants of the past life constantly attempt to reclaim ground. Paul's call to "put to death" these aspects emphasizes the seriousness of the fight against sin and the necessity for spiritual discipline.

### **Application:**

**Identify** specific aspects of your earthly nature that you struggle with.

**Reflect** on your daily habits and attitudes—are they more reflective of the old self or the new self in Christ? **Pray** for strength and renewal in these areas.

## ***Day 3: Embracing a Christ-Like Nature***

Reading: Colossians 3:12-14

### **Devotional:**

As chosen people of God, we are called to embody attributes that reflect His character. Dressing ourselves in mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, and love isn't just an external act but an internal transformation that influences our interactions with others. Forgiveness is central, mirroring the forgiveness we have received from Christ. Love is highlighted as the supreme virtue that unifies and harmonizes our relationships, illustrating the essence of Christ's nature within us.

### **Application:**

List the Christ-like qualities mentioned in these verses and evaluate which ones you currently exemplify and which need development. **Choose one quality to focus on this week**, and **find practical ways to apply it** in your daily interactions—whether at home, work, or in your community. **Reflect** on how increased emphasis on love in your life can transform and strengthen your relationships.

## ***Day 4: Living Out Our Faith in Action***

Reading: Colossians 3:17

### **Devotional:**

This verse succinctly encapsulates the entirety of the Christian call to action. Every word and deed should mirror our identity as Christ's ambassadors. Living as a representative of Jesus means our actions and speech should consistently reflect His love, truth, and grace. Gratitude becomes the language through which we communicate with God, highlighting our continuous dependence and acknowledgment of His providence and sovereignty in our lives.

### **Application:**

Are there areas where you struggle to reflect Christ? **Develop** a practice of starting each day with a prayer, dedicating your actions and words to God's service. **Identify one area where you can improve in being a more effective representative of Christ** and make a concerted effort to be conscious of it throughout the day.

## ***Day 5: Establishing a Workplace Legacy***

Reading: Colossians 3:22-25

### **Devotional:**

In the context of work, Paul emphasizes sincerity and integrity, encouraging believers to work as if directly serving the Lord. There's a divine aspect to earthly labor which elevates our daily tasks into acts of worship. Our attitude towards work should reflect a higher standard, with Christ as our true master. This passage challenges us to consider our professional relationships and responsibilities as expressions of our faith, knowing that integrity and diligence are seen and rewarded by God, not merely by earthly measures.

### **Application:**

**Identify** ways to improve your work ethic, focusing particularly on areas where you may be working to please people rather than God. How can you incorporate a more sincere and willing attitude in your tasks? **Reflect** on how your work can be an extension of your faith and consider ways to address any inconsistencies. **This week, make a conscious effort to approach your daily work with the mentality that you're serving Christ**, looking for opportunities to demonstrate integrity, diligence, and kindness.