

Rooted In New Life

Rooted | Part 3 | Colossians 3:1-17

INTRODUCTION

Following Jesus isn't about polishing your past. It's about living in your new identity. You're not the same as you were before Christ. You've been raised. You've been changed. You've been given new life. As we continue our Rooted series in Colossians, chapter 3 shows us what stepping into your new reality in Christ is supposed to look like. Paul is calling believers to live lives that are rooted in new life.

KEY POINTS

1. Set Your Focus on Heaven

Paul begins by reminding us who we are: we've been raised with Christ. That's not just poetic language; it's a spiritual reality. If you're saved, you're not the same person you used to be. You died to the old self and were raised to live a new life with Jesus. And if you've been raised with Christ, your focus needs to change. You can't live a new life with an old mindset.

Paul tells us to lock our focus on Jesus and fix our hearts on heaven. Where your mind goes, your life will follow. You can't move forward into your new life if your mind is pointing backward at your old life. When Christ is your life (not just a part of your life), everything changes. Jesus didn't come to be your weekend boyfriend; He came to be your Lord, Savior, and King. So set your mind on Him and set your focus on heaven.

2. Slay the Old Self

Paul gets practical and direct in this passage. You've been raised to a new life, so live like it. He doesn't say tolerate your sin or manage it. He says to put it to death. This is decisive, once-and-for-all action. Paul is not talking about negotiating with sin; he's talking about executing it.

These patterns of sexual immorality, impurity, anger, malice, slander, and lying belong to the old you. That's the junkyard version of your life. You've been restored, so don't go back to what broke you. Sin may look harmless when you let it stay close, but it's always sizing you up. That's why Paul says to get serious about sin and slay the old self.

NOTES

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3. Suit Up in the New Self

According to Scripture, when you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you've been made new, so put on the wardrobe that matches your identity in Christ. You're God's chosen, holy, and dearly loved. When God changes who you are, He also changes how you live.

Living out the new self is a daily decision. You don't accidentally end up clothed in Christ; you choose it. You choose grace over grudges, love over bitterness, forgiveness over revenge. Just like firefighters suit up before entering a burning building, believers suit up in Christ because their life and mission depend on it.

4. Saturate Your Life with Christ

Paul closes this passage by telling believers that the Word of God should dwell with them, not visit occasionally, but take up residence. When the Word of God dwells richly, it shapes how we think, speak, parent, forgive, serve, and worship.

Paul gives us three clear instructions: let the peace of Christ rule, let the word of Christ dwell, and do everything in the name of Christ. When your life is rooted in Christ, your entire existence becomes a reflection of the resurrection. But when your life is rooted in pride, performance, possessions, or popularity, your identity becomes fragile and your fruit temporary. Lasting fruit only comes from being rooted in Jesus.

NOTES

All In with Jordan Easley

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What does it practically look like for you to “set your mind on things above” in your current season of life?
2. Which parts of the “old self” do you feel tempted to tolerate instead of putting to death, and why?
3. How can you intentionally allow the Word of God to dwell richly in your home and daily rhythms this week?
