

Colossians 3:1-11 "Jesus is our Focus"

Intro.

Subject: How to experience the Christian life

Object: Live for Jesus

review: 1. Who Jesus is, 2. What Jesus is not, 3. What is a Christian?

A. Live by + for Jesus [1-4]: new life, new look, new love

1. New life [1] raised with Christ: new life in Christ – born of the spirit, regenerated

2. New look [v.1-2] focus on things above [2x]: God the Father, Christ, heaven, eternal view **not on things of the earth [2]** *pleasure possessions power prominence*

a. For you died [3] dead to temptation of the world **Rom. 6:11-22, Gal.2:20**

i. **Note:** keep focus on Jesus + eternity and you won't be tempted by the world

* Driving and looking to the side & drifting ** kz pics – blurred background

3. New love [4] Jesus is our life: for me to live is Christ [Ph. 1:21]

a. Moses gave up the treasure and pleasure of Pharaoh's court to I.D. w/God > serve God and His people – imagine at the end, no regrets **Heb.11, Ac.7**

i. appear with Him in glory: when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him like He is > fully conformed to His image [**1Jn.3:22**] [**GOSPEL**]

What is the supreme love of your life? Would those who know you agree?

B. Stop living in the flesh + for this world [v.5-9] [4 areas]

Are you controlled by flesh or by God? Pleasure, possessions, power, prominence

1. Sexual sin [5] PLEASURE fornication *porneia* –sex immorality –sex outside of marriage, moral **uncleaness, passion *pathos* lust [1Th. 4:3**

2. Materialism [5] POSSESSIONS covetousness wanting more of material world, not content re God's provision [greed is idolatry, look to things to make you whole

a. Spurgeon: if not content w/what you have, won't be with 2x as much [**Ex. 20:17**]

i. Antidote for covetousness is contentment in Christ

3. Anger [8] POWER lifestyle anger, wrath rage, **malice:** gen'l hatred ***door*

note: solution of love, patience, kindness re life of the new man [3:12-17]

4. Speech [8-9] PROMINENCE putting down others to make self look better

blasphemy: gossip, talking down and slander vs. fellow man [not God]

filthy language: dirty jokes, cursing, **lies: Jn.8:44** Satan is father of lies

C. How to live for Jesus [9-11] Process + Progress

1. Put off the old life [9] * mud football – *peel off* + don't put muddy clothes back on

2. Put on the new [10]

a. Learn of + from Jesus [10] is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him: Rom.12:2, Matt. 11:28-29 [**Col.1:16**]

i. Process of learning the Bible, being a disciple -> foundation classes, SoM

b. Be united with believers [11] there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free: destroy cultural division, pride * Community – find Christ, find a church, find a friend + find a job (serve)

3. Put Christ first [11] but Christ is all and in all. [Mt. 22:37

a. It's all about Jesus and He lives in all that believe in Him!