



# COLOSSIANS SERIES PERSONAL DEVOTIONAL PLAN

## WEEK 8

*Each week through this series, we are including five personal devotional readings followed by a couple of questions you can think on through the day. Monday is a day to set aside to read through the book of Colossians. The rest of the week we will look at two or three verses to contemplate more deeply and personally. We hope you enjoy digging into this important book over the next 10 weeks, and we pray God will use these short devotional questions to give you deeper insight and that through it, the gospel will be “bearing fruit and increasing” in you daily (Colossians 1:6).*

**Monday Reading:** Read through Colossians in one sitting.

*Devotional Question—What is something new that you picked up from your reading of Colossians this week? How can that thought be an encouragement throughout your day?*

**Tuesday Devotional:** Read Colossians 3:16

*Devotional Questions—Is the Word of Christ dwelling richly in you? Howso? Does it lead to thanksgiving?*

*How does this passage reflect what Church should be like every Sunday?*

**Wednesday Devotional:** Read Colossians 3:17

*Devotional Questions—Why do you think Paul keeps stressing thanksgiving? Why are you thankful?*

*What does Paul mean when he calls us to do everything in the name of Jesus? How can you worship God in your work, whatever it is?*

**Thursday Devotional:** Read Colossians 3:18-21

*Devotional Questions—How is your family doing at obeying these instructions? In which of these do you need to repent?*

*What is the key attitude or posture that needs to be present in each of these postures?*

**Friday Devotional:** Read Colossians 3:22-25

*Devotional Questions—How can verses 22-23 instruct us as to how we work? Should the quality of our work depend on if we are treated fairly or not?*

*How can verses 24-25 give you confidence in your work, even if you have been mistreated as you do it?*





# COLOSSIANS 3:1-17

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE FROM 10/31/21

### SERMON SUMMARY

Early in the book of Colossians, Paul gives a clear picture of who Jesus is, what He has done for Christians, and what now is true about them because they have been united with Christ. He challenges this young church, based on the finished work of Christ, to rest in Him, not falling into the trap of legalism whereby they might seek to achieve or maintain righteousness through good works. Paul does not, however, want to communicate a tolerance for unrighteous living. In chapter 3 he challenges the believers to pursue Godly living, understanding that in Christ they have a new life. They are to live with Heaven and their heavenly identity in mind and should, therefore, seek to set aside their sinful, earthly ways. They have new life in Jesus and are able now to walk in His ways, not to secure salvation or a special standing with God, but because in Christ they have the security of good standing with God already.

**Key Passage:** Colossians 3:1-17

*Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the “Grow” section of our study.*

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

**KNOW—Spend some time finding out how everyone’s week has gone.** *The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or “connection” activity or with questions appropriate to your context.*

*What is one way God is challenging you to trust Him this week?*

*What are some ways you have experienced God answering your prayers lately?*

*Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?*

**GROW—Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.**

*What does Paul mean when he says “you have been raised with Christ”? (See 2:13-14)*

*What does it mean to “set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth?” In what way does this reflect a new identity in Christ?*

*What does it mean for you, day to day, for Christ to be “your life” as we see in verse 4? This speaks to identity, values, and priorities—is this true for you?*

*Late in chapter 2, Paul tells us not to let anyone weigh you down with rules. Here in 3:5-9 he gives a list of sins to stop doing. How is his instruction not a contradiction to chapter 2?*

*What is the reason he gives for not doing these things?*

*How are these things Paul identifies destructive and incompatible with the Christian life?*

*How does knowing we have a new life in Jesus make verse 11 possible? What does that look like in our culture?*

*In 3:12-17, Paul lists the virtues a Christian should be adding to their lives. In what ways does this list contrast with the list in verses 5-9?*

*The language of “put to death” and “put on” tells us this life of Godliness is something to be worked toward. Why does Paul use that language—don’t these come naturally to the Christian?*

**GO—Talk through ways you can put what you’ve learned into practice.**

*How should the life of a Christian look different from that of the unbeliever?*

*How can we be challenging each other toward godliness like Paul describes?*

*How can we live a life of godliness before others without seeming weird or judgmental?*

