

March 23

Colossians 3:17 (NIV) And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him

When we moved into our home, we decided that we needed to be better organized. We had an attic and built a shed. We then proceeded to buy numerous totes, especially for our Christmas decorations. We put summer clothes in one set of totes and winter in another. Fall decorations went into totes labeled Fall. Christmas decorations were divided into totes labeled Living Room, Dining Room, Santas, Tree Lights, Floor Santas, etc. Of course, we had to buy more totes as the process continued. Finally, we had everything in its own tote so that we could store them without mixing items. If we wanted a specific item, we simply found that tote.

As I thought about that, I realized that we can take the same approach to our lives. We are constantly hearing about the separation of church and state and that our “religious” belief should remain private. Therefore, we take politics and put them in another. We place our leisure time in another. We may have a tote labeled “Spring Break” or “Vacations.” We take our jobs or business dealings and neatly stack them in their own container. Social causes, patriotism, and entertainment have their places. Then, we take Jesus and place Him in His own tote, making sure to give Him ample attention. When the occasion is right, we take Jesus out of His tote, but we make sure that He does not mix the other areas of our lives. This sounds ridiculous, but people often try to live their lives in such a way. Separation of church and state. Separation of church and education. Separation of church and politics. I hear people state that their religion is private so they take it out when at home. However, when we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, we have only one tote, and it is labeled Jesus. Every other aspect of our lives goes in that tote so that nothing is separated from Jesus.