

Centered in Christ: Putting on the New

Colossian 3:12-17

Putting on New Clothes (v. 12-14)

- Because we are new in Christ
 - Chosen and loved by God
 - Set apart for God
- We should seek to emulate Jesus with:
 - Compassion (lit. 'guts of pity'): To be moved by what moves Him
 - Kindness/Generosity: To look to the needs of others
 - Humility/Modesty: To think of ourselves rightly
 - Meekness: To not being overly impressed by a sense of one's self-importance
 - Patience: being self-controlled in the face of provocation
 - Tolerance: Putting up with the struggles of others
 - Forgiveness: Letting go of the wrongs that others have done to us
- All of these are just how Jesus treats us
 - And all of which can be summed up in one command: Love each other! (John 13:34-35)

Taking Up New Residents (v. 15-16)

- We are called to let Christ's peace rule in us
 - This is a call to let the Jesus take control of our lives
 - "Heart": Place of will, decision
 - "Rule": Umpire, arbiter
 - Peace should always take precedence in the life of a Christian, because of the peace we have with God through Christ
 - Which should lead to gratitude
- We are to let Christ's word dwell in us
 - The truth of the Gospel should transform us
 - And we should encourage each other deeper and deeper into that truth through:
 - Teaching: Show what is right
 - Admonishing: Correcting what is wrong
 - Praising God together

Living Out a New Mission (v. 17)

- With our new identity in place
 - And our thinking & words being conformed to Christ
- We are called to let everything we do and say reflect Jesus to the world
- This is result of putting Christ first in our lives

So What?

- Are we letting Jesus transform our lives?
 - So we are loving each other the way He loves us
 - And so we are reflecting Him to the world

Meditation Verse: Col. 3:17