

Colossians 3

Discussion Guide

Pre-discussion Question

Take a moment to imagine yourself seated in the heavenlies with the Messiah, *with a crown on your head* like His. How does such an image, if we can really internalize it, strengthen us to turn from the worldly behaviors that prevail in the lower realm?

RSR: Read, Summarize, React

Read: Read through the passage silently or together or listen to it.

Summarize: Using your own words, summarize the passage. In this passage, what are the *one or two main ideas or goals* Paul is trying to express or accomplish, either directly or through example?

React:

Likes: Ideas/phrases you particularly like

Questions: Ideas/phrases that confuse you or bring up questions

Connections: Does this passage remind you of another Bible event or character or verse or something in the culture or in your own life?

Applications: What life principles do you see here? How can you apply this chapter to your own life? How can we apply this chapter to life in the Body of Messiah?

Specific Questions

One way to parse the attributes Paul is telling the Colossians to “put on” is as follows:

- 1) compassion from the gut
- 2) kindness
- 3) humility of mind
- 4) gentleness
- 5) patience
- 6) holding up one another**
- 7) extending grace to each other
- 8) LOVE that binds everything together in harmony
- 9) the peace of the Messiah in the heart
- 10) thankfulness
- 11) the word of Messiah in abundance for teaching/admonishing/singing

Examine and discuss this list. Which is most difficult to “put on” consistently? How is a warm compassion from a lower place than the cool intellect foundational to this list? Why is “holding up one another” in the center position, the “shamash”? How is it that the “word of Messiah” is not only an end point but also a new beginning point?