


*COLOSSIANS 3:1-3, 16-17*

What are you hoping to experience this year as you participate in TABLE?

Why do we need to be intentional about close relationships that encourage us in Christ?

Is there anything God is teaching you about Himself and about yourself right now?



*If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*

...

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*-Colossians 3:1-3, 16-17 ESV*



*COLOSSIANS 3:1-4*

Think about and describe what it means to be “hidden in Christ”. (Isaiah 49:2; Psalms 27:5-6; Psalms 31:19-20)

Does the image of being hidden in our Lord give you comfort and a sense of safety? Why or why not? How does this clash with the “Me First” attitude of the world

Do you long for that “glorious day” when Christ brings us home to heaven? How has this longing changed as you’ve grown in your relationship with Christ and in your life experiences?



*If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

*-Colossians 3:1-4 ESV*




## COLOSSIANS 3:5 - 9

In what ways have you “set your mind on things above” and experienced the goodness of being “hidden in Christ” since our last gathering?

Wow! Verse 5 begins with the phrase, “Put to death” and goes on to say our sins of sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed are in fact forms of idolatry. Are you comfortable acknowledging the areas of your life that have become idols – things that cause you to worship God’s creation rather than God Himself? Consider sharing an area of your life where God is calling you to let go of an earthly idol and instead look to Him for true security and rest.

While we may prefer to focus on “putting on the new self” (and we will next month!), we must first remember we are called to “put off the old self”. What are some things we need to “put off” in this process of being renewed in Christ?

How can we pray for you today? Close by praying Philippians 4:8-9.



*Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices...*

*-Colossians 3:5-9 ESV*



## COLOSSIANS 3:10-11

We are beginning a new year focusing on being renewed in Christ. In what ways do you sense God stretching you to grow more deeply in Christ and in dependence on Him?

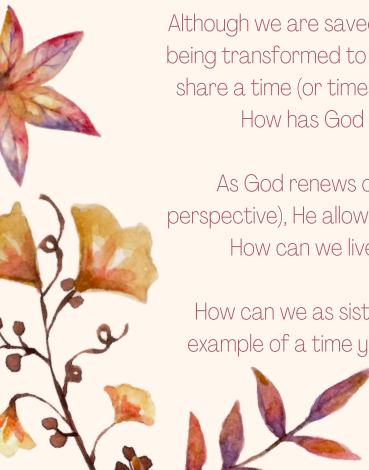
Although we are saved once from our old life to a new life in Christ, we are constantly being transformed to be more like Jesus. This process is called sanctification. Can you share a time (or times) when you were fully aware of his transformation in your life?

How has God changed your heart through this renewal of your mind?

As God renews our mind (by changing our focus from an earthly to eternal perspective), He allows us to see that we are all united by Christ – He is all and is in all.

How can we live a life that shows the world this unity we have in Christ?

How can we as sisters in Christ speak the truth to one another in love? Share an example of a time you have done this or experienced this. What stood out most?



*...and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.*


*-Colossians 3:10-11 ESV*





## COLOSSIANS 3:12-14

"So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it." -Colossians 2:12-14 MSG



In verse 14 of The Message paraphrase, love is described as our basic, all-purpose garment. Just for fun, tell us about your favorite piece of clothing OR your number one-can't-leave-the-house-without-putting-it-on thing.

Read v. 12-14 in the MSG. In keeping with the wardrobe analogy, which of these items are you compelled to "put on" as you embark upon your daily routine.

What are some tangible ways that we can dress/put on the things that demonstrate that we are chosen, holy, and beloved?

Going back to question one: putting on love – share the name of someone you'd like for us to pray for you to demonstrate God's love to in an intentional way in the month ahead.


*Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.*

*-Colossians 3:12-14 ESV*



## COLOSSIANS 3:15-17

What have been some meaningful ways that you have “let the word of Christ dwell in you richly? Is there an area of Bible study and reflection that is particularly difficult for you (reading, studying, reflection, memorization, prayer)?



Warren Wiersbe says, “When there is peace in the heart, there will be praise on the lips.” How has this proven true in your life even in times of suffering and pain?

Do you have an example to share of someone who has modeled biblically how to admonish one another in all wisdom (v. 16)?

Use Colossians 3:15-17 in the MSG paraphrase to close in prayer.

*And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*-Colossians 3:15-17 ESV*




## COLOSSIANS 3:1-17

We have been meditating on Colossians 3:1-17 since September. What has been most impactful or memorable as you have been renewed in Christ through TABLE?

Inner peace can feel elusive or unattainable amidst the worries of life. What has God shown you about the True source of peace?

Colossians 3:16 says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." How can you live out this verse in a fresh, new way?

Share any "last words" or favorite Scripture to encourage one another as you embark on this next season of life... hidden in Christ.



*If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

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