

Colossians: Week Five

Have the group read **Colossians 3:1-11** prior to coming to small group. Ask them to take notes on what they see in this passage and to read it over and over again before coming. The goal of this week is to live a lifestyle that exemplifies the new creation that we are in Christ, casting off the old self.

Opening

What is the benefit of having something that is new as opposed to having something that is old and used?

Discussion

What does it mean in v. 1 that you have been raised with Christ? Take some time to really think about the implications of this new position we have.

In v. 1-2, what does it mean to seek the things above, or set your mind on the things above in light of being raised with Christ?

How have we died as mentioned in v. 3 (compare Romans 6:2-14)? What implications does this have on the life we now live?

How can we consider our earthly bodies dead to sexual sin, impurity, lust, evil desires, greed? What happens when we don't?

Why should we work on not having these things, along with the things mentioned in v. 8, in our lives?

What does it mean in v. 10 to be renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the creator?

In light of what you have already studied in Colossians, why do you think Paul wrote this to the Colossians? Why is this important for us today as believers?

Application

How can you live a life that exemplifies your new self instead of your old self?

What are some real ways that you can overcome deeds of the old self (sexual sin, impurity, lust, etc.) now that you have been raised with Christ?

How are you going to work on seeking the things above instead of the things of this earth?

What are you going to do to continue to pursue Christ-likeness?

Conclusion

We have a new life in Christ! What an amazing truth that we so often forget. Our old sinful self has been crucified with Christ and we have been resurrected with him. This passage in Colossians should be one that causes us to celebrate our new position in Christ and also a passage that intensely challenges us to continue to become more Christ-like, casting aside our sinful desires.

We understand that Christ is preeminent, sufficient, and supreme and that he desires to be holy and to seek righteousness. We need to focus on this daily and see the things above and not the things of this earth which lead to death.

Let this passage be a continual challenge and focus for you as you continue to pursue your relationship with Jesus.

Prayer

Pray that God would continually help and empower you to seek the things above and not the things of this earth. Pray that he would guide you to live by the power of the Holy Spirit and to have true victory over sin in your life. Praise him that you have a new life in Christ and that you have been resurrected and raised with him.

***Make sure everyone knows when and where to meet next week.*