

A NEW US WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16

() GETTING STARTED

This weekend, we continued the series, *The Cosmic Christ*, and focused on **Colossians 3:8-10**, learning that to walk in the way of love in all of our relationships, we must put off our *old clothes*.

REMINDER: This is our last week of Life Groups for the Fall Life Group Session. You will spend some time discussing this weekend's message and study, as well as reflecting on all the good the Lord has done in you and in your Life Group during this session. You will also take communion together as a group.

As you begin this study, take a few moments to meditate on these verses from Philippians 2. How does it bring you comfort to know that the Lord is working in you as you listen and follow Him?

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Philippians 2:12-13



STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1. Take a few minutes to review your message notes. What was your top takeaway from the weekend message?
- 2. Over the last few weeks, we've been unpacking the first several verses of Colossians 3. Read **Colossians 3:1-10** slowly twice through. Write down or circle any words or phrases that seem to be highlighted to you.
 - a. Dre unpacked the six "old clothes" listed in verses 8 and 9. Do you recognize any of these in your own life? Which ones, and why?
 - b. Have you noticed growth in any of those areas? If so, how have you experienced putting off the old self and putting on the new?

- c. Out of the six, which one do you consider your weakest?
 - i. What environments or circumstances tend to amplify this shortcoming?
 - ii. How would you like to see growth in that area?
- d. How would your relationships improve if you were to grow in any or all of these areas?
- 3. In a similar way, the Apostle Paul exhorts the church in Ephesus to put off the old self and put on the new. **Read Ephesians 4:17-32**.
 - a. What are some ways Paul encourages the Ephesians to *put on* the new self?
 - b. By the power of the Holy Spirit living within us, we have been given the strength to put on our new self. What new commitment do you need to make to the Lord to walk in your "new clothes"?
- 4. Romans 12:2 says, "to be transformed then, by the renewing of our minds." Dre shared that it's not enough to have a renewed mind; we also need to be renewed in our hearts and in our intimacy with God. One way we can do that is by *intentionally praying* in each of these areas.

Renew How I See You

- a. When we remember how great and good our God is, and how near He is, it deepens our understanding of *who* He is. Read **Psalm 139:7-10** and **Colossians 1:15-20**.
- b. What does it mean to you that God is everywhere all of the time and also holding all of creation together?
- c. Spend time praying and ask Jesus, "How do you want to renew my mind and heart about how I see you?" Be sure to write down anything you sense He speaks to you. It might be with a whisper, a picture, or words from Scripture.

Renew How I See Myself

- d. Understanding our identity in Christ positively impacts every area of our lives. Read **Psalm 139:13-16**, **Ephesians 1:3-6**, and **Psalm 17:8**.
- e. How do you feel knowing that you were created and chosen on purpose and for a purpose?
- f. Spend time praying about this area as well. Ask Jesus, "Who do *you* say I am?" Write down anything He shares with you.

Renew How I See Others

g. Remembering that every human being is created in God's image, and loved by Him, can profoundly impact how we view others. Read **Genesis 1:27**, **Matthew 9:36**, and **John 3:16**.

- h. What would change in your heart if the Holy Spirit opened your eyes to see the people around you as someone that Jesus died for?
- i. Like the other two sections, pray about this area. Pray, "Lord, I want to see people with your eyes. Bring to mind someone who needs my compassion today and not my judgment. Help me to love them as you do."
- 5. As we live out our faith and intentionally choose to put on the "new clothes," let's also remember that the Holy Spirit is working to bring about a deeper transformation in our hearts. Using these words of the Apostle Paul from **Colossians 1:9b-12**, make them a prayer over yourself.

We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.



LOOKING BACK

Take some time to review each of your Life Group studies from this fall session. What has the Lord been teaching you during this season? Do you notice a pattern in what He is revealing to you? How can you partner with the Lord to follow His will for you?



COMMUNION

This week, you will take communion during your Life Group. We celebrate communion together to remember what Christ has done for us on the cross. When we participate in communion, we are celebrating the Gospel! To prepare for this, read and reflect on **Matthew 26:26-30** and **1 Corinthians 11:23-26**.