

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

Colossians 3:1-17

Talk About

- Have you watched (or actually run) a marathon? What preparations do runners have to make to maximise their efforts?
- As a child, how did setting your heart on a certain toy or gift affect how you acted and what you thought about?
- How would you feel if a trusted friend described you as “God’s Chosen Person”?

Read About

- v.1 says “set your hearts on things above”. Who is the focus of these heavenly thoughts?
- What are the characteristics of a person who sets their mind on “earthly things”? See Philippians 3:19.
- List the vices in v.5,8-9. Which vice/s are easiest to commit?
- What nationalities or people-groups does Paul mention in v.11? Why do you think this reference was important?
- Where does Paul say the Word of Christ should dwell (v.16)? What do you think this means? (See Ephesians 5:18-20)
- How many times does Paul refer to ‘thankfulness’ in v.15-17?

Think About

- Does Paul think sexual immorality (v.5) is worse than anger (v.8)? Why or why not?
- What steps can you take to put to death the (easy) vice/s that you identified earlier (v.5,8-9)?
- What are the playing fields in your life where Christ is the umpire?
- What aspects of Paul’s instructions do you find most difficult?
- You could end by reading / memorizing Colossians 3:17.

Colossians 3:1-17 (NIVUK)

Living as those made alive in Christ

¹ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.