

LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE

Colossians 3 & 4 are the way to live out the truths in Colossians 1 & 2

I. Set Your Heart And Your Mind.

Colossians 3:1-2, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

Both our affections and our thoughts

Affections + thoughts = actions

1. Where do we set them? Above

What is the "Spiritual Compass" in our lives? Growth

Paul describes it in one word: Throne

Where Christ is seated is a place of...

Authority

Security

How do we set them? Focus

The power to do this is found in one word ... Throne

Give me some practical help... How do you set a heart and a mind?

Start the night before and first thing each day with thoughts about God.

Pray throughout the day that God would give you a heavenly perspective on people and events and circumstances.

Make God's Word a part of your life every day.

Spend time around others who want to think like you do.

We either see things below in light of things above or we allow things that are below to block our vision of things above.

II. See Yourself As Dead And Alive

Colossians 3:3-4, "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."

Christ not only died for us: Substitution

We also died with Him: Identification

Notice... You died ... Put to death therefore...

Why do I have to put to death that which is already dead??

What died?

Colossians 3:5, "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:"

Sins of getting

Immorality

Impurity

Lust

Evil desires

Greed

Greed is really idolatry.

Why should we put these attitudes to death?

Colossians 3:6-7, "For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them."

1. They hurt the heart of God

Wrath means God takes sin personally!

2. They no longer fit who we really are!

Our dealing with sin will take one of two forms ...

Don't let it in the door of your life

Throw it out the door of your life

III. Take Off The Old And Put On The New

Colossians 3:8-11, "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all."

Relationship Sins

Anger

Rage

Malice

Slander

Filthy Language

Lying

Growth in my new life is a simple two step process ...

Colossians 3:9-10, "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:"

1. Take off the old

The test: Are you acting in a new way?

2. Put on the new

The test: Are you thinking in a new way?

Colossians 3:11, "Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all."

We cannot use our background as an excuse for sin ... because we are all new people in Christ.