

On Things ABOVE

The Book of Colossians

On Things ABOVE

How to Live in Your New Identity
Colossians 3:1-17

How do you Live in Your New Identity?

2 Corinthians 5:16-17 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. **¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**

Colossians 3:1-17 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is 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 what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices

Colossians 3:1-17 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. ¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Colossians 3:1-17

¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.

How do we live in our new identity?

Trust who God says you are, not what your flesh tells you.

Seek and set your mind on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.

Put off the old self and put on the new self.

Let the peace of Christ rule your hearts.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you (*teaching, through one another, and spiritual songs*).

You learn to live in your new identity through everyday choices

17 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.

Invitation

Moving yourself toward Jesus

When your old nature is pulling and tempting you to sin do what Galatians 5:16 says: *Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.*

Moving others toward Jesus

In your interactions with others yield to the Spirit and do what Colossians 3:12-13 says: *put on compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another forgiving each other, and above all these put on love.*