

COLOSSIANS

TREASURING CHRIST - LIVING FOR CHRIST

Colossians 3:1-17 - '*Hearts & minds*'

How do you feel about your progress in the Christian life? Have there been different ways you've thought about growth as a Christian, or about the battle with sin, over the course of your life?

Orientation - verses 1 to 4

Why do you think Paul starts his 'practical' instructions to the Colossian Christians with setting hearts and minds on things above?

What might it mean for your life to be 'hidden with Christ in God'? In what ways might that be an encouraging truth, and in what ways might it be hard?

Putting off and putting on - verses 5 to 14

Look at the language in verse 5 and compare it to verse 3; you can do the same for verses 8 and 9. What is the relationship between the 'once for all' dying/putting off which has happened to the Christian, and the 'daily' dying/putting off which they have to do?

Can you see any pattern or logic in the groupings of traits that Paul encourages us to put off and put on? *The first group to put off is in verse 5; the second group is in verses 8 and 9. The group to put on is in verses 12 to 14.*

Is Paul's vision for Christian progress encouraging to you?

The thankful community - verses 15 to 17

Why do you think Paul emphasises gratitude so much in these verses? How can we be a church (and a homegroup) where the message of Christ dwells among us richly?

What do you struggle to do 'in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him'? How can we pray for and support one another?