

THE ULTIMATE WHY

Living Our Lives
For God's Glory

COLOSSIANS 3:17



FINDING THE ULTIMATE WHY

WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO,
AND WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Colossians 3:1-17

Who we are . .

1. TRANSFORMED - raised with Him (1a)
2. CONNECTED - hidden in him (3)
3. COMPLETED - promise (4)
4. HUMBLED - Why? we all have a past (7)
5. RENEWED - Wisdom from our creator (10-11)

What we do . . .

1. FIXATE (1b-2)
2. DEMOLITION - Part 1 (5-6)
3. DEMOLITION - Part 2 (8-9)
4. SUIT UP (12-15)
5. COLLABORATION - INFUSION (16)

Why we do what we do

FOR GOD'S GLORY(17)

Discussion Questions

1. Read Colossians 3:1-2. Do you find yourself fixating on certain things in your life (money, relationships, job, etc.)?
2. What challenge does Paul give us in these verses and what steps can we take to be more fixated on the things of God.
3. Read the lists of sinful behavior found in verses 5-6 and 8-9. What encouragement does Paul give us in verses 10-11 concerning the problem of sin in our lives?
4. Read Colossians 3:12-17. "Paul uses the image of putting on new clothes to show how true spirituality involves "wearing" the Christlike qualities of love, peace, and thankfulness (Rm 13:14)." (CSB) How are you doing in these three areas of your walk with God in your daily journey?
5. Pray for God to help us realize THE ULTIMATE WHY in our lives every day - to glorify Him in everything we do and say.

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 ¹⁰ 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. 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.

Paul wrote Colossians from jail to deal with some heresies that were circulating among the churches—particularly one false teaching about the uniqueness and deity of Jesus Christ. Such teachings involved a blending of Jewish and Greek ideas with a smattering of Christian perspective that resulted in a dumbing down of the truth about Christ. Paul counters this with a striking argument for the deity of Jesus—"he is the image of the invisible God" (Col 1:15) who was responsible for creation and is the head of the church. He is King over all of his kingdom.

Paul calls for rejection of any so-called knowledge, religious or secular, that diminishes the uniqueness of Christ. But he didn't want believers' stance on the topic to be merely theoretical. He therefore calls the Colossian believers to reflect Christ's character in every area of their lives, to put the truth into practice. The key to doing this is to submit to Jesus as Lord, both because he is God and because he is the final word of authority in the life of every believer. In the book of Colossians, Paul exalts Christ and calls the church to display his glory and truth by the way we live for his kingdom. - Tony Evans Study Bible