



Colossians



SHEPHERDCHURCH

Week 5: Raised with Christ

Welcome

Share about a time when you tried to "reinvent" yourself or attempted to change up "your look" (career, hairstyle, wardrobe, etc.). How did it go? How long did it last?

Worship

Listen to or sing one or two songs that focuses on the resurrection life we have in Christ—songs like "*Glorious Day*" (Passion), "*Living Hope*" (Phil Wickham), "*Because He Lives... Amen*" (Matt Maher), etc. Then, reflect together on what stood out to you about the lyrics and what you think of when you hear the words "raised with Christ."

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Word

(If you haven't already, watch the video lesson and read **Colossians 3:1-11**)

1. Read **Colossians 3:1 and John 6:44; Romans 6:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:5-6**. What does it mean to "have been raised with Christ"?

2. **Colossians 3:1-2** says, "set your hearts on things above," and "set your minds on things above." How are the two concepts alike and how are they different? What are some practical ways to do both on a daily basis?

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3. **Colossians 3:3-4** says, "your life is now hidden with Christ in God," and "Christ, who is your life..." Are these verses contradicting each other? Why or why not? What might these verses teach us about our security and identity?

4. In **Colossians 3:1-4**, how does Paul connect our past, present, and future with Jesus? How do these verses help us to further understand our identity and even our purpose?

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5. In **Colossians 3:5**, Paul calls us to “put to death, therefore, whatever belongs your earthly nature.” Make a list of the vices that Paul lists in **Colossians 3:5-9**. Which of these old behaviors is still tempting to put back on?

6. In the video lesson, Susana emphasized the comparison of putting on the new self to wearing fresh, clean clothes (**Colossians 3:9-10**). Share some Christ-like qualities that you are growing into or are trying to grow into.

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7. Read **Colossians 3:10-11 along with Romans 10:12-13; Acts 10:34-35; Galatians 3:28; and Revelation 7:9**. How does (or should) the church challenge the world's cultural notions and racial divisions? What practical steps can individual Christians take to live this out?

Witness

Review any outreach plans your group has made and give an update on the name that you shared with the group last week.

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Personal Reflection & Deeper Study for this Week

- Memorize **Colossians 3:2** or **Colossians 3:2-3**.
- Read **Colossians 3:2; Isaiah 26:3; Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Philippians 4:8; and Proverbs 4:23 (NCV)**.
 - What do these verses say about the mind?
 - What do these verses teach about the power and focus of the mind?
 - What is the difference between fixing your mind on truth vs. letting it wander to earthly things?
 - How do these Scriptures challenge the way you make daily decisions?
- Read the following questions about “the heart” – **Genesis 6:5; 8:21; Psalm 36:1; Ecclesiastes 9:3; Jeremiah 17:9; Matthew 12:34; 15:17-20; Mark 7:21-23; Luke 6:45; Ephesians 4:18**.
 - How is the heart described?
 - What themes do you notice across the verses (deceit, evil thoughts, spiritual darkness, bad behavior, etc.)?
 - Which verse stands out to you the most and why?
 - How would you describe the human heart?
- Read **Deuteronomy 11:13, 18; 26:16; Psalm 51:10; Ezekiel 11:19; 36:25-27; Romans 2:28-29; and Hebrews 10:22**.
 - What do these passages say about God’s power to transform our hearts?
 - What specific imagery is used to describe the transformation of the heart?
 - How are the Holy Spirit and our obedience involved in the process?
 - What do these verses teach us about salvation and sanctification (becoming more holy and becoming more like Christ)?