

**THE KINGDOM OF THE BELOVED SON:  
LIFE UNDER THE REIGN OF JESUS CHRIST**

**Topics:**

1. Our Cosmic Deliverance: Where the Christian Life Begins (Col 1:13-14)
2. Christ is All, and in All: Our Identity in the Kingdom (Col 3:11)
- 3. The Society of Jesus: Our Church in the Kingdom (Col 3:12-17)**
4. *In Nomine Christi*: Our Conduct in the Kingdom (Col 3:17)
5. The Dream Home: Our Families in the Kingdom (Col 3:18-21)
6. The Heaven-Bound Heart: The Quest for the Kingdom (Col 3:1-4)

**THE SOCIETY OF JESUS: OUR CHURCH IN THE KINGDOM**

**I. What Does the Community of the Kingdom Look Like?**

**II. Colossians 3:12-17: The Marks of Christ's Society**

- A. The Consequence of Having Put On the New Self (Col 3:12-17)
- B. Put on the Virtues of Mercy and Their Deeds (3:12-13)
  1. Put on the following virtues:
    - a. Compassion
    - b. Kindness
    - c. Humility
    - d. Meekness
    - e. Patience
  2. while/by bearing with one another (3:13)
  3. while/by forgiving one another (3:13)
- C. Put on Love (3:14)
- D. Let Christ's Peace Rule (3:15)
- E. Be Thankful (3:15)
- F. Let Christ's Word Dwell Richly (3:16)
- G. Do All in the Name of Jesus (3:17)

**III. Achieving It All by Resting in Christ**

To do Col 3:12-17, we must first accept Col 3:11 as fact. If "Christ is all and in all," then what is true of Christ, must now be true of us.

**Embracing God’s Word:** “Accepting that Christ is all and in all, I put on the virtues of my Lord Jesus Christ. I clothe myself in compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, tolerance, and forgiveness. I forgive others just as Christ has forgiven me. I love my fellow Christian as Christ has loved me—seeking nothing less than his or her good.

I also submit to the peace of my Lord Jesus, the peace that he achieved by his death on the cross. I will not follow the dark ways of this world and contribute to the destruction of others. Instead, I strive to live with those in the kingdom as well as those outside the kingdom out of the peace that Christ has given to me.

I will be thankful. I will remember the deep pit of death, despair, and hopelessness that God the Father has saved me from. I give God the glory for saving me from destruction and for giving me new life in the kingdom of his beloved Son.

I fill my thoughts and speech with the word of Christ. I desire that the thoughts I think and the words I speak be the words of my Lord Jesus. I will not devote my thoughts to the evil one and his ways of thinking. Instead, I seek the replication of Christ in all my thinking and speaking.

Above all, I do all things in the holy name of my Lord Jesus Christ. I place all my work under his rule. I reveal his glory and excellencies in everything that I do.”

**Questions for further discussion:**

1. Why must we be merciful to one another?
2. What are two possible ways of understanding the relationship between v 12 (“put on”) and v 13 (“bearing with...”)?
3. What is the peace of Christ? How do we let it “rule in our hearts”? Why is it important to let it rule in our hearts?
4. Why does Paul call us to be thankful? Are you thankful?
5. What is the word of Christ (3:16)? How, according to Paul, do we let it dwell richly in us?
6. How does accepting Col 3:11 help us to become the kind of people that Col 3:12-17 calls for?