



The "New" Life in Christ ... Live it

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

March 8, 2020

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. – Col. 3:1-2

The people who forcefully grabbed hold of the kingdom of heaven are the ones advancing it. Though on the earth, they had a heavenly mindset. Having a heavenly mindset is very important for advancing the kingdom, not only in our lives but on this earth as well. It is for this reason that Satan is always attacking the believer's mind with doubts, fears, worldly thoughts, etc.

Spirituality involves the whole of human life; nothing is nonspiritual... In fact, spirituality is to be expressed primarily in the ordinary everyday affairs and relationships of our lives." Ranald Macaulay and Jerram Barrs

The Ordinary Life, Extraordinarily ... Col. 3:1-11

I. Focus on the _____ ... vs. 1-4

Why? ...

- We _____ with Christ (3a)
- We _____ in Christ (4a)
- We are _____ with Christ (1a)
- We are _____ in Christ (3b)

II. Slay the _____ ... vs. 5-9

III. Strengthen the _____ ... vs. 10-11

Let's Consider ...

- I. We do all of this not to _____ a better Christian, but because we _____ a Christian!
- II. The categories of "spiritual" and "nonspiritual" are false. All of life is _____.
- III. Our _____ will always determine our _____

Truth for Life

For the week of March 8, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Growing up, did you tend to be someone who was on the cutting edge of the current fashion trend, a play-it-safe, follow-the-crowd adopter, a conscious fashion rebel or someone who always seemed to be a bit out of sync with what was popular? Why did you choose this answer? What was your motivation?
2. Read back through the list of "Earthly" things that we are to put off (slay) in Colossians 3:5-9. Make a list of those things. Identify whether each is internal or external. Are there any that you don't understand?
3. We heard this weekend that when we commit to following Christ, we need to put to death the desires and actions belonging to our old, earthly nature. Read Romans 6:11-14. How does this passage clarify the idea that we need to "starve the Enemy and feed the Spirit"?

Can you think of anything that has helped you to not let sin reign in your body?

4. Most of the things Pastor David mentioned that we need to change on the outside involve how we talk to each other (malice, slander, filthy language and lying). Using this kind of language can have a big impact on others. What are the results of using language like this according to the following verses?

Proverbs 12:18 Proverbs 15:4 Proverbs 21:6 Proverbs 26:28

Despite these results, why do you think people still use this kind of language? Read James 3:5-12. How does James help you understand the impact of your speech on others?

5. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
 - a. Is there a puppet-sized behavior in your life that could become a gorilla if you're not careful? Are there any steps you need to take to continue to starve it and feed the Spirit?
 - b. Discuss: Can a truly born-again person be enslaved to some sin for all of his/her life? Support your answer with Scripture.
 - c. If we are dead to sin (Romans 6:3, 5, 6, 8), why does it have such a strong appeal, even years after we've been saved? What should we learn from this (1 Cor. 10:12-13)?



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The Ordinary Life, Extraordinarily ... Col. 3:1-11

I. Focus on the **Upward** ... vs. 1-4

Why? ...

- We **Died** with Christ (3a)
- We **Live** in Christ (4a)
- We are **Raised** with Christ (1a)
- We are **Hidden** in Christ (3b)

II. Slay the **Earthly** ... vs. 5-9

III. Strengthen the **Christly** ... vs. 10-11

Let's Consider ...

- I. We do all of this not to **BE** a better Christian, but because we **ARE** a Christian!
- II. The categories of "spiritual" and "nonspiritual" are false. All of life is **Spiritual**.
- III. Our **Focus** will always determine our **Direction**

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