

1. If you never sing, or you hide your light, or you are embarrassed you have yet to fall in love with God.
2. Dads should avoid provoking their children by not abusing their authority over them.

Colossians 3 New American Standard Bible

Put On the New Self

Therefore, if you have been raised with Christ, keep seeking the things *that are* above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things *that are* above, not on the things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

⁵ Therefore, treat the parts of your earthly body as dead *to* sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. ⁶ *For it is* because of these things *that* the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷ and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you also, rid yourselves of all of them: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* obscene speech from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you stripped off the old self with its *evil* practices, ¹⁰ and have put on the new *self*, which is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created it— ¹¹ *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, *and* free, but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, *and* patience; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so *must* you *do* also. ¹⁴ In addition to all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity. ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ, to which you were indeed called in one body, rule in your hearts; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Family Relations

¹⁸ Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not become bitter against them. ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not antagonize your children, so that they will not become discouraged. ²² Slaves, obey those who are your human masters in everything, not with eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³ Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord and not for people, ²⁴ knowing that *it is* from the Lord *that* you will receive the reward of the inheritance. *It is* the Lord Christ *whom* you serve. ²⁵ For the

one who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Paul's Questions and insights

1. What does it mean to be raised up with Christ?
2. To seek things above is to keep your eyes on God's better things in eternity.
3. Do you actually believe Christ is seated at God's right hand in heaven?
4. 'To set your mind' is within your power to act - as to what you will choose to think about in your head.
5. The concept of 'things above' is to consider heaven while you remain on earth.
6. What are the dangers for Christians who set their minds on the things of the earth, over the things going on in heaven?
7. 'Have you died in Christ' means, is your life yours or His?
8. There is great reward for the faithful in Christ.
9. What does it mean to you, to consider your body as dead?
10. Letting yourself indulge in the list of negative actions Paul gives, is to give yourself to the practice of these things.
11. If you give yourself to the practice of these things you are worshipping the flesh over the Spirit - you have returned to the pigsty!
12. God sent Jesus to deliver us from being ensnared to these practices, having broken free, it is ludicrous to give yourself to them all over again!
13. To put them all aside is to have the ability not to do them. You can say 'no' to them now, before Christ you couldn't, but now you are awake in God you can say 'no'.
14. 'Do not lie' which means you have the power within you not to lie.
15. A Christian can never say 'I can't stop doing it.' If Christ Jesus is in you by His Spirit you can do all things through Christ.
16. Not only can you say 'no' to poor behaviour but you can put on your new self.
17. It means, inside your spirit lives the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit in you is teaching you through the bible God's ways.
18. When you listen in your spirit to what the Holy Spirit is teaching you, you can rise up over your soul and be all you are in Christ - let Christ live in you.
19. God sees all Christians as one human race, He makes no distinctions between them, all are precious in God's eyes.
20. While it is true to say there are those who have not been chosen to be saved as Paul says.
21. For me, it would not reflect a loving creator to think Paul is referring to some have been born not to be saved.

22. As we put on our new self we create a loving community and the world around us will be blessed.
23. If we live as we were in our old nature we continue in our old ways.
24. Forgiveness is the only foundation to build a new future, without it everything is undermined.
25. To put on love is live fully within yourself.
26. For peace to rule in your heart/spirit, you have to live according to His ways or you will be in conflict within yourself.
27. For the word to 'richly dwell' is for it to have its complete way with you.
28. Many people know the word but refuse to obey the word.
29. Having gained an understanding and an experience you will be able, with true conviction, to help others who are on the same journey as you.
30. Worshipful Christians are the hallmark of Godly activity.
31. If you never sin, or you hide your light, or you are embarrassed you have yet to fall in love with God.
32. When you fall in love, you don't care what others think of you.
33. 'Everything you do' means to do it as if you were doing it for Jesus.
34. For a wife to be subject to her husband, is a way of finding security and peace in the relationship.
35. For a husband to love his wife, is to live sacrificially in the service of her wellbeing.
36. Obedient children benefit from the wisdom of their parents.
37. Dads should avoid provoking their children by taking authority over them.
38. Slaves are encouraged to serve as if they serve the Lord.
39. Our inheritance awaits us if we remain faithful