

## LifeGroup Discussion | Practice the Ways of Jesus | Week of 2/16

**Main Passage:** Colossians 3:12-17

**Supporting Passages:** Ephesians 1:9-10, Ephesians 4:22-24

**Reflective Passages:** 2 Corinthians 1:20-22, Hebrews 6:19

**Main Idea/Question:** How can we actively practice the ways of Jesus in our daily lives?

**Culture Code Emphasis:** Humility>Rightness

### Before LifeGroup

- Review your LifeGroup Values.
- Ask yourself—"Which of these on-ramps (PORCH TALK, LIVING ROOM, AFTER GLOW) best reflects our values and the needs of our group this week?"
- Then start your discussion in that section. Week to week may change what section you resource for your meeting.

### On-Ramps

- **Porch Talk**—*use these questions over food or casual interactions. Feel free to make them more personable based on the contents of the sermon being discussed.*
- **Living Room**—*use these questions in an environment when your group is 'all in' and had the opportunity to attend or listen to the sermon prior to LifeGroup.*
- **After Glow**—*use this section if your group wants to dig deeper or as follow-up email/text messages or conversations that come up after your time as a group.*

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**PORCH TALK**—*use these questions over food or casual interactions. Feel free to make them more personable based on the contents of the sermon being discussed.*

What did you hear on Sunday?

Did you learn anything new?

Do you have any questions or was there anything you didn't understand?

How can we take what we've discussed into our week?

How can I be praying or holding you accountable in response to what you heard?

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**LIVING ROOM**—use these questions in an environment when your group is 'all in' and had the opportunity to attend or listen to the sermon prior to LifeGroup.

### Discussion

**To Know/To Share:** Colossians 3:12-17 outlines key virtues and practices for Christian living, emphasizing the importance of embodying Christ's character.

**Read:** Colossians 3:12-14

**Say:** Paul lists several virtues that Christians should "put on" as God's chosen people.

**Ask:** Which of these virtues do you find most challenging to practice consistently, and why? (Ideas: compassion in difficult relationships, humility in a competitive environment, patience in frustrating situations)

**Read:** Colossians 3:15-16

**Say:** These verses emphasize the importance of Christ's peace and word in our lives.

**Ask:** How can we practically let Christ's peace "rule in our hearts" and let His word "dwell in us richly" in our daily routines? (Ideas: regular prayer and meditation, memorizing Scripture, participating in worship and fellowship)

**Read:** Colossians 3:17 and Ephesians 1:9-10

**Say:** These passages remind us that everything we do should be done in Jesus' name and for God's glory.

**Ask:** Share a recent experience where you consciously tried to do something "in the name of the Lord Jesus." How did this mindset affect your actions or attitude?

### Application

**Say:** This week, let's focus on intentionally practicing one of the virtues mentioned in Colossians 3:12-14. Choose one that you want to grow in and commit to embodying it in your interactions.

### Close in Prayer

*SAMPLE: Lord Jesus, thank You for calling us to reflect Your character. Help us to put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. May Your peace rule in our hearts and Your word dwell richly in us. Guide us to do everything in Your name, bringing glory to the Father. Amen.*

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**AFTER GLOW**—use *this section if your group wants to dig deeper or as follow-up email/text messages or conversations that come up after your time as a group.*

**Say:** Our culture code emphasizes pursuing Humility over being Right, but this can be challenging in a world that often values self-promotion and instant gratification. Pursuing Christ-likeness, as emphasized in Colossians 3, often challenges our cultural norms that prioritize self-promotion and instant gratification. This pursuit requires a radical transformation of our inner being, which can be difficult in our fast-paced, self-centered society.

**Ask:** What specific aspects of "putting on" the virtues listed in Colossians 3:12-14 do you find most challenging in your daily life? How do these virtues conflict with societal expectations or personal habits?

**Read:** Ephesians 4:22-24

**Say:** Paul uses similar language here about "putting off" the old self and "putting on" the new self, emphasizing the role of our minds in this process.

**Ask:** How does the renewal of your mind (Ephesians 4:23) practically contribute to embodying the virtues listed in Colossians 3:12-14?

**Follow-Up:** Can you share a specific example of how a renewed mindset has helped you recently practice one of these virtues?

**Read:** Colossians 3:15-17

**Say:** This passage reminds us that life has different seasons and rhythms.

**Ask:** How might regularly engaging with Scripture and cultivating a spirit of thankfulness help us in "putting on" Christ-like virtues?

**Say:** The Christian life is not about behaving better. It's about seeing Jesus more clearly and learning to delight in him. As we do that, we'll behave more like him." - Timothy Keller

**Ask:** In what areas of your life do you need to focus more on "seeing Jesus clearly" rather than just trying to modify your behavior? How can we as a group support each other in this pursuit?

### Further Reflection:

- "Character is not the product of crises. Character is the product of day-to-day actions and reactions." - Chuck Swindoll
- "If we're not being intentionally formed by Jesus himself, then it's highly likely we are being unintentionally formed by someone or something else" - John Mark Comer

### Thoughts to Chew On:

- "We do not segment our lives, giving some time to God, some to our business or schooling, while keeping parts to ourselves. The idea is to live all of our lives in the presence of God, under the authority of God, and for the honor and glory of God." - R.C. Sproul
- "The goal is not to become a carbon copy of Jesus Christ, but rather to allow the character of Christ to be formed in us in our own unique way." - Richard J. Foster