

2. What steps can be taken so the Holy Spirit can more readily produce this godly fruit in our lives?

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.....

3. The Greek word for "love" used here is 'agape' which is God's kind of love. Can you think of a person who has loved you with real agape love at some point in your life? What kind of impact did that kind of love have on you?

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.....

4. In verse 15 Paul tells us that the peace of God can work like an umpire or referee in our hearts, minds, and emotions. Do you recognize situations or events when your emotions try to throw you into an emotional mess and steal your peace and joy? Give a description of those situations. What can we do to quiet ourselves so God's peace can settle us in those situations?

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5. Verse 16 says, "Let the word of God dwell in you richly." 'Richly' describes incredible abundance, extreme wealth, and enormous affluence. In our quiet time with the Lord, how do we allow His Word to dwell in us richly?

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6. Refer to the growth work in the sermon notes. Begin to work on that list if you haven't already.

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sermon notes

JANUARY 8, 2012

SERMON SERIES: JESUS + NOTHING = EVERYTHING

TODAY'S SERMON: LIVING YOUR NEW LIFE, PART 2

SCRIPTURE: COLOSSIANS 3:12-17 (NKJV)

PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF OUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST — THE HOW-TOS

Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

Colossians 3:12-14 (NKJV)

1 We put on the _____ of Christ.

HOW CAN WE LEARN TO LOVE LIKE JESUS?

a) Begin by recognizing three truths about yourself:

1. I am _____ by God.

2. I am a _____ person.

3. I am dearly _____ by God.

b) Then we make a daily choice to act with this list:

- compassion
- kindness
- humility
- gentleness
- patience
- bearing grievances against you
- forgiving sins against you

Forgiveness means that I don't bring it up; I don't gossip; I don't remind myself.

c) I make an overall commitment to love.

2 We're ruled by the _____ of Christ.

.....
And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

Colossians 3:15 (NKJV)
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Peace is an athletic term which means to _____.

THREE ESSENTIALS FOR PEACE:

1. We are _____ of one body.
2. We have God's _____ in our lives.
3. We are to be _____.

3 We're indwelt with the _____ of Christ.

.....
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Colossians 3:16 (NKJV)
.....

God's Word dwells in us as we do the following:

- hear
- read
- study
- memorize
- meditate

4 We do everything in the _____ of Christ.

.....
And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Colossians 3:17 (NKJV)
.....

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

- His _____.
- His _____.
- His _____.

GROWTH WORK

Write down the name of a person toward whom you need to act in love.

A decision where you need the peace of Christ to rule.

One person with whom you need to share the Word of Christ.

One place where you need to act in the name of Christ.

study notes

1. Read Colossians 3:12-17. In these verses the apostle Paul offers a strategy to help us live for God every day. Now look at Galatians 5:22-23 which describes the Fruit of the Spirit. Discuss "works of the flesh" and what they produce and what the "Fruit" of the Holy Spirit produces.

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