Colossians 3:5-11 (December 3, 2023) "Our Identity in Christ: Part 2"

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Colossians 3:5-11

1. Discuss the examples of the strong phrases Paul uses in Colossians 3:5-6, 8 to emphasize the seriousness of dealing with our sins (like sexual immorality, covetousness, anger, slander, etc. plus many others not listed). How does Romans 1:18; 8:13 reinforce this emphasis?

2. Give the definition of covetousness. Why does Paul label covetousness as idolatry? What practical ways have helped you in "putting to death" (Colossians 3:5) this idolatry?

3. Everything in Colossians 3:5-11 flows out the foundation of the previous verses (3:1-4). "We can summarize Paul's teaching as, 'Be who you are.' It is not, 'Do this, or else." (<u>Colossians & Philemon For You</u> p. 129 by Mark Meynell)

How would focusing on your identity in Christ impact your perspective regarding "putting off the old self"?

4. Why do people lie? What are some of the lies people believe about lies? How does lying impact our relationship with others? Why does Paul say we should not lie (Colossians 3:9-10; Ephesians 4:25)?

5. Identify all that is found about "the new self" and how this is meaningful to you from the following verses:

Colossians 3:9-10

Romans 6:4

Romans 12:2

Ephesians 2:10

Ephesians 4:24

2 Corinthians 3:18

6. Give modern-day illustrations of the various types of people described in Colossians 3:11. Discuss Paul's conclusion regarding our identity in Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:28) and if you find this relatively easy or challenging?