

Colossians 3:12-17 (December 10, 2023)
“Our Identity in Christ: Part 3”

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 3:12-17

1. How does Paul address the Colossian believers (Colossians 3:12a)? What difference does it make to you when you recognize your identity in Christ and how He feels about you?

2. From Colossians 3:12-13, discuss what “God’s chosen ones” are to “put on”. Share how the Lord helped you “put on” one of these qualities and/or share a time when you witnessed someone else demonstrating one of these qualities.

3. “The Greek word *anechomenoi*, translated ‘bearing with,’ means ‘to take responsibility for again and again’...The word for ‘bear’ in the original Greek means “to endure something unpleasant or difficult.’ ” (gotquestions.org)

What is the difference between “bearing with one another” and “forgiving each other” (Colossians 3:13)?

4. Colossians 3:13 states that we are to forgive each other “**as the Lord** has forgiven you.” What does “**as the Lord**” indicate about the quality of forgiveness believers are to have for each other (Jeremiah 31:34; Matthew 6:14-15)? What has been your experience of being forgiven by someone and/or having to forgive someone?

5. What are the results when “love binds everything together” according to this passage? How have you appreciated the impact of this love within the body of Christ?

6. Paul refers to thankfulness three times in this passage. From the following passages tell why we should be thankful and under what circumstances:

Psalm 7:17

Psalm 106:1

Philippians 4:6

Colossian 3:15-17

Colossians 4:2

1 Thessalonians 5:18

7. From your study of “Colossians-Our Life in Christ” what impacted you the most and what are you most thankful for regarding your “Identity in Christ”?