Growth Group Lesson: May 25-26, 2024

Title: Colossians: Union to Christ and His Church, Pt 7 – "Become Who You Are" -- Colossians 3:5-14

Big Idea: Practice the Renewed Self

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

Practice the renewed self by remembering who you are-- Colossians 3:1-5,12

What is the word "therefore" pointing to in verse 5, and why?

Discuss any truths about our identity found in Colossians 3:1-4?

Paul calls us "God's chosen ones, holy and beloved." How does this truth influence how we live?

Practice the renewed self by putting to death distorted sexuality-- Colossians 3:5-7

We are instructed in v.5 to "put to death" sinful patterns in our lives. How do we do that considering the truth of who we are?

Why does Paul speak of the sins that characterized our old as past and — at the same time — as things that must be put away in the present? What does this tell us about sanctification?

Why does Paul call this list idolatry?

Practice the renewed self by putting away dishonoring speech-- Colossians 3:8-9

Consider how you talk to those around you. Spend some time in prayer asking the LORD for forgiveness and the grace to put away anything that isn't edifying.

Read Ephesians 4:29. What are some ways that you can give grace to those who hear with the words that you speak?

What are some other passages that speak towards the use and power of your words?

Be Renewed in knowledge after the image of your creator-- Colossians 3:10

Read Romans 8:5-11. What role does the Holy Spirit play in this process?

Read Romans 12:1-2. What are some of the ways that we are renewed in knowledge?
Practice the renewed self by putting on love-- Colossians 3:12-14

Read the list of what we are to clothe ourselves with in v.12-14. What kind of people does God desire us to be? What can we do to see those characteristics developed in our lives?

Why is it important to begin with Christ when we look at a list like this?

"Next Steps" Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

With God:

"There is not one personal transformation in which the heart is left without an object of ultimate beauty and joy. The heart's desire for one particular object can be conquered… but its desire to have some object is unconquerable. The only way to dispossess the heart of an old affection is by the expulsive power of a new one." **--Thomas Chalmers**

Consider in prayer: Is there a particular desire, object, or person that has captured your heart for its joy or affection? What beautiful and joyful truth about who Christ is can you put in its place?

With Others:

Colossians 3:12-17 describes the kind of life that Paul wanted to church in Colossae to have with one another. Review our Continuing Together Covenant, which describes the kind of life that we want to have together at Good Shepherd Community Church.
If you haven't signed it, would you consider covenanting with us in this way?
If you have signed it, consider how you can apply Colossians 3:12-17 with those around you at Good Shepherd.

https://gscc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1531078

On Mission:

How might you explain to an unbeliever the joy and beauty that comes from practicing this kind of life? How might you respond if they told you that the sexuality and speech that they practice is more fun?