Week 7 (Week of November 8) — Colossians: Putting On Christ

If you haven't yet: Please share introductions and read through the Group Life Participation at New Cov Document to learn about the purpose of groups, practices for healthy groups, and our seasonal structure.

Start Here (Ice Breaker Question):

What is a personal preference you have that might be different from someone else in your group?

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1. Remember Who You Are in Christ: Read Colossians 3:12

1. Paul describes followers of Jesus as God's chosen people, holy, and dearly loved. What do these truths tell us about our identity in Christ?
2. How might remembering that we are already dearly loved by God change the way we approach relationships with others?
3. Paul calls us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Which of these qualities are most easily noticed in others? Why is that?

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2. Recognize Your Responsibility to One Another: Read Colossians 3:13–16

1. Paul calls us to bear with one another and forgive as the Lord forgave us. Why can forgiveness be difficult, and how does remembering the forgiveness we have received from Jesus help us extend it to others?
2. Paul says to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts and to put on love, which binds everything together. What might it look like to allow Christ's peace and love to shape the way we handle disagreements or differences in our group, church, or relationships?
3. Paul calls us to let the message of Christ dwell among us richly as we teach and encourage one another. What are some ways we can help one another grow in our faith and keep Jesus at the center of our relationships?

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3. Represent Christ in Everything You Say and Do: Read Colossians 3:17

1. Paul says that whatever we do, whether in word or deed, we should do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. What does it mean to represent Jesus in the ordinary things we say and do?
2. As you consider your relationships, work, family, and everyday interactions, what is one area where you could be more intentional about representing Christ this week?

Pray Together

As we pray, ask God to help us remember who we are in Christ and live in ways that reflect Him.

- For a deeper understanding of our identity as chosen, holy, and dearly loved in Christ
- For compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience in our relationships
- For the willingness and ability to forgive others as the Lord has forgiven us
- For the peace of Christ to rule in our hearts and relationships
- For our words and actions to represent Jesus well and bring glory to God

NEXT MEETING: When and where will we meet?

As a way to share responsibility for our group, who will champion these areas of our group?

- Rotation of people to facilitate group discussion (who will take next meeting?)
- Prayer requests
- Food or snacks
- Group service project
- Manage our group calendar
- Plan for childcare
- Other?

(Optional) Additional Discussion

How does knowing that you are chosen, holy, and dearly loved by God affect the way you see yourself?

What is the difference between forgiving someone because you feel like it and forgiving someone because you have been forgiven by Jesus?

When have you seen personal preferences create unnecessary conflict in relationships or in the church?

What might it look like for the peace of Christ to serve as the deciding factor when you disagree with someone?

How have music, Scripture, or the encouragement of other believers helped the message of Christ dwell in you more richly?

What is one practical way you can represent Jesus in your words or actions this week?