

Like Christ: Our Model

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, **13** bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. **14** And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **15** And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **17** And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

I. We're On The Team (Col 3:12a)

"12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,"

A. God's **CHOSEN...** In Christ we receive: Full **ACCEPTANCE**

-Fully accepted and hand-picked as God's children

B. God's **HOLY...** In Christ we receive: Full **AFFIRMATION**

-Fully affirmed and set-apart for His purpose and glory

C. God's **BELOVED...** In Christ we receive: Full **AFFECTION**

-Fully known and pursued by God; unconditionally and sacrificially loved by Him

OUR IDENTITY IS IN CHRIST, AS CHILDREN OF GOD, FULLY LOVED BY HIM

II. So Put On The Jersey (Col 3:12b-14)

"compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. "

A. Put on Then...

1. Compassionate Hearts
2. Kindness
3. Humility
4. Meekness
5. Patience

B. Fore-bear and Forgive

-accepting and embracing the legitimate differences of other; rather than rejecting others because they are different

-choosing to let go: treating a person who wrongs you as if they owe you nothing

C. Our Perfect Bond

- Above all else put on love
 - unconditionally and sacrificially living for the best and true interest of others
- binding everything together in perfect harmony

III. Jesus: our Hearts Umpire (Col 3:15)

15 *And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.*

- literally: "let Jesus be the umpire of your hearts"
 - word taken from the athletic arena
- when we accept His Lordship- we can't go wrong

IV. So Get In The Game (Col 3:16-17)

16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

A. Let the Word of Christ Dwell

- 1. Teaching
 - 2. Admonishing
- } In all Wisdom
-
- 3. Singing:
 - Psalms
 - Hymns
 - Spiritual Songs
- } With Thankful Hearts

B. Whatever you Say and Do

- do it and say it in the name of the Lord Jesus,
- bring everything into the test of the presence of Christ: our Model
- Can we do it, and in the same breathe name the name of Jesus?

WE'RE ON THE TEAM... NOW WEAR THE JERSEY.
CHRIST IS OUR UMPIRE,
SO LETS GET OFF THE BENCH AND GET IN THE GAME.

5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: **6** whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. (1 Jn 2:5-6)

1. Is my identity firmly rooted in Christ as a child of God, or am I chasing acceptance, affirmation, and affection in things that won't last?

2. Which attribute of Christ mentioned in Colossians 3 needs lived out more fully in my life right now?