

Extreme Make Over
Colossians 3:12-17
Focused: A Life Centered in Christ

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How can you see God's transformation in you?

Exude the heart of Christ. (12-14)

Our identity in Christ as chosen, holy and beloved precedes *lasting* (vs. "a little bit") change.

Bearing, forgiving... is for living with people who are not living transformed lives.

These are all are qualities Jesus wants to pour through you. Ask Him for more opportunities to grow in them. He will do it.

Experience the Peace of Christ. (15)

Will have conflict at times, but we have a choice either to let peace rule, or try to control our circumstances.

The peace of Christ comes not from our circumstances changing, but from God changing us in the middle of them.

When stressed by someone, write down ten reasons they're worth loving.

Exhaust the Word of Christ. (16)

We need to drink and imbibe deeply as we read, study, apply and put into practice the Bible.

We will never exhaust His Word! There will always be areas can grow in. We must be thankful for what God is showing us.

We need to take what God is teaching us, and help others learn and grow spiritually.

Exalt the Name of Christ. (17)

These verses are not a list of to-dos or a bunch of rules, but ways we can honor the Lord.

We need to continually ask ourselves: Is what I am doing honoring God? Is He pleased? And be specific...

These instructions are not merely external. We have the Holy Spirit inside us to do it in and through us.

Questions for Discussion:

How well do you understand your identity in Christ?

What does this really mean? Why is it important?

How well are you allowing Christ to live out these qualities in your life?

Which ones are your strengths? Your weaknesses?

How are you "exhausting" the Word of Christ without it becoming merely a routine?

Who are the people you are helping to grow spiritually? Can you name them? What are you passing on to them?

What are ways you commonly see other Christians living lives that are not honoring to God?

What can we learn from their negative examples to help us exalt the name of Christ?