

September 29, 2019

**Elevated Thinking**  
**Colossians 3:1-11**  
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## Using This Study

### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

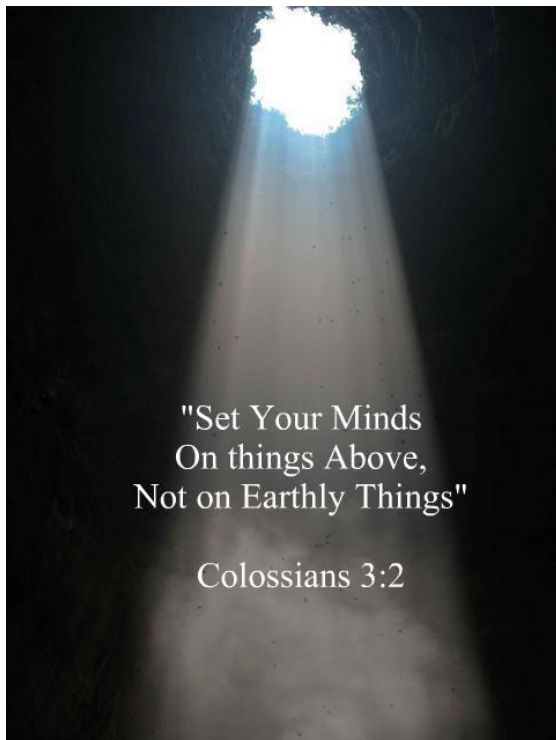
What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we start the third chapter of the book of Colossians. In the third chapter Paul encourages his readers to set their minds on the things above. Clearly the things above are the things of God. So the real question for us becomes, how do we set our minds on the things of God and leave behind the things of the world. The things of this world often seem more urgent than the things of God. We still have to live in this world and we don't want to disregard our responsibilities. So what does it look like to set your mind on the things above? Join us this week as we seek to put on the new self and set our minds on the things above, leaving behind the things of this world.



## Colossians 3:1-11 (NASB)

### Put On the New Self

**3** Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup> For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. <sup>6</sup> For it is

because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, <sup>7</sup> and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. <sup>8</sup> But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices, <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him— <sup>11</sup> *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

**o EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.**

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

**2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**What does God MEAN?**

8. What does it mean to be raised up with Christ?

9. What should we consider ourselves dead to?

10. What brings on the wrath of God?

11. What is laying aside the old self?

12. What is putting on the new self?

13. What is meant by no distinction between all the different people? Consider the context, why does Paul state this here?

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**Why does this MATTER to me?**

14. What are some practices that we can have in our life that will help us keep our minds on Christ?

15. We all have things that are hard to give up. How can we be dead to the things of our old self?

16. Is it possible to be engaged in the culture and have a mind set on Christ at the same time?  
How do these two things impact each other?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**

*Sermon Notes*