

Relating in Christ: (Col. 3:15 – 17)

At the end of each of verses 15, 16 and 17 we are exhorted to give thanks. Why? How does Paul model this? How does being thankful affect our relationship with God, with others?

How can we practically let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts? What is the significance of being members of one body?

What does it mean to let the word of Christ dwell in you richly?

What difference does it make if we do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus?

Reading these verses again, how do these attitudes affect how we relate to others?

Reviewing what we have learnt, what are the basic principles for holy living? How does this differ from the approach of the false teachers in Colossae?

Groups week beginning 6th March 2023

Study 5: Rules for Holy Living

Readings: Colossians 3:1 – 17

How does the grace of Christ influence your relationships with other people; with other Christians in a positive way?

Knowing that God will forgive you, does this lead to any negative behaviour toward others?

Read Colossians 3:1 – 17:

Think in Christ: (Col 3:1 – 4)

Why do you think Paul asks us to set our hearts and minds on things above?

What two things are we asked to contemplate in that have happened in the past, are true now and will happen in the future? How do these affect your understanding of Jesus and your relationship with him? What changes in your behaviour are brought about by these facts?

“Put off” in Christ: (Col. 3:5 – 11)

Looking at the list, when people behave in these ways where do they place themselves in their priorities? What attitudes to other people are portrayed by these behaviours?

Are these behaviours ‘frowned upon’, passively tolerated or actively encouraged in our society?

Are any of these areas you struggle with? What can fellow Christians do to help us?

In v6 & 7 why do we put these to death?

The list in v8 and 9 again are things to get ‘rid off’. Discuss this list.

What is the significance of the ‘new self’ being renewed in knowledge in the image of the Creator? How does this relate to the ‘fall’ in Genesis?

What do you think Paul means by v11?

Clothed in Christ: (Col. 3:12 – 14)

What does Paul remind us of in v12? Why is this important? How does this description compare to God’s attitude to his Son?

What are we to clothe ourselves with? Compare to the list in Galatians 5:22.

What is our role in being clothed, what is God’s role?

Are any of these areas you struggle with? What can fellow Christians do to help us?

Why is love supreme in v14?