

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Speaker: Senior Associate Pastor Petrina Guneratnam

Topic: Building Strong Families, Session I

THE REALITIES OF THE NORMAL CHRISTIAN LIFE

Our position - “Risen with Christ”

Colossians 3 v 1 (NKJV)

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Our pursuits - “Seek those things above”

Colossians 3 vv 2-3 (NKJV)

v2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

v3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Our prospect - “Appear with Him in glory”

Colossians 3 v 4 (NKJV)

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

THE REGULARITIES OF THE NORMAL CHRISTIAN LIFE

A morally behaved life

The evil of sensual sin

Colossians 3 vv 5-7 (NKJV)

v5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

v6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

v7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

The evil of social sin

Colossians 3 vv 8-9 (NKJV)

v8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

v9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

A lovingly—disposed life

Colossians 3 vv 12-14 (NKJV)

v12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

v13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

v14 *But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.*

A peaceably-related life

Colossians 3 v 15 (NKJV)

v15 *And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.*

A scripture-oriented life

Colossians 3 v 16 (NKJV)

v16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

A Christ-centered life

Colossians 3 v 17 (NKJV)

v17 *And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NORMAL CHRISTIAN LIFE

The Christian's oneness in the home - Colossians 3 vv 18-25 (NKJV)

v18 *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

v19 *Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.*

v20 *Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.*

v21 *Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.*

v22 *Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eye service, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.*

v23 *And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,*

v24 *knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.*

v25 *But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.*

The Christian's oneness in the family - Colossians 3 vv 18-21 (NKJV)

Wives to be submissive, as fitting in the Lord

Colossians 3 v18 *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

Husbands to be loving, free from bitterness

Colossians 3 v 19 *Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.*

Children to be obedient, as the Lord expects of them

Colossians 3 v 20 *Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.*

Fathers to be un-provocative, so as not to discourage

Colossians 3 v 21 *Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.*

Key words: **put off**
put on