



Series: Colossians Established in Jesus
Passage Colossians 3:1-17
Title: God's Initiating Love
Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper – 3/10/2019

Discussion Starter

Why do you think it is so important for us to remember that God is always the initiator in our Christian walk? How is this fact supposed to change how we view things in our life?

Putting On the New Identity (Colossians 3:1-4)

- Read Colossians 3:1-2. What lets us know that God is the initiator in these verses and what is He initiating? As followers of Jesus Christ, how are we to be first responders? How does this differ as compared to first responders like the fire department or police?
- What is Paul trying to convey to us when he says we should seek things that are above?
- How do we set our minds on things that are above and how is this different from seeking the things that are above?
- Read Colossians 3:3-4. What does it mean that our life is hidden with Christ in God?
- What promise do we see in Colossians 3:4 that should encourage us in our daily walk as Christians? Read 1 John 3:2. Discuss the additional insights we gain from this verse.

Putting Off the Old Self (Colossians 3:5-9)

- How does Paul divide into two groups the things we are to put off as Christians, and why do you think that there are two groups?
- Why do you think covetousness is included in the first grouping?
- What are some of the deceptive ways these acts have been repackaged by the influence of Satan in our society that make them appear as being good?
- Do you think Paul is delineating a progression from greater to lesser sins as he gets to Colossians 3:8-9? Describe in your own words how you see these two lists and how they have impacted your life.

Putting On the New Man (Colossians 3:10-17)

- How is it that we are able to put on the new man and how do we practically do this on a day to day basis?
- Read Colossians 3:12-13. What are some of the key points that we should remember when we interact with other people especially our Christian brothers and sisters?
- How does the love mentioned in Colossians 3:14 summarize the previous two verses and where does this love come from?
- Read Colossians 3:14-17. What are some of the things God as the initiator provides for us as we walk out our Christian lives? What are the ways we as responders are to respond?