



Series: This Is Life
Passage Colossians 3:12-16
Title The Foundation of Love
Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 3/17/2019

Discussion Starter

What does it mean to be under the Lordship of Jesus Christ? How is our expression of self-sacrificial love dependent on this lordship? How is the “Lordship of Jesus” and “abiding in Christ” related?

We cannot love properly unless we have been loved properly (verses 12-16)

- How would you explain what it means to be “God’s elect, holy, and beloved” and how does this enable us to express care for others? (Verse 12)
- What is the definition of this type of love? What other words might you use to describe the expression of this type of love? Provide a few examples.
- Read 1 John 4:19 and John 15:4-5, 8-9 Why is this love different from the love that is expressed by non-Christians? What are the two key components in this love and why can’t non-Christians experience this type of love?
- What does it mean to “**put on**” the ten attributes described in verses 12-16? Why is it necessary to “put them on”?
- What are each of the ten attributes and describe how they are applied in our walk as Christians?
- Which of the ten attributes mentioned do you enjoy receiving most?
- What are the attributes mentioned in Colossians 3:8 that we are we to put off? As believers, “raised with Christ”, which attributes do you find are more natural for us, those in verse 8 or those in verses 12-16? Explain why you think this is so.
- How do you feel when exhibiting the attributes in verse 8? What benefits do we think we get from displaying these types of behaviors and where do you think they stem from?
- How would you describe what tender-mercies are? What are some examples of how we experience God’s tender mercies for us?
- What tender mercies have you received from a friend, spouse, or boss? How did these tender-mercies touch you? How do you think your expression of tender mercies might affect others?
- What is the opposite of tender-mercy and what are some examples that you have experienced in your life, both being the receiver and giver?
- What does it mean to “abide in the love of Jesus”? How is abiding in the love of Christ related to “the bond of perfection mentioned in Colossians 3:14?
- What is the instruction given about the peace of God and where does this peace originate from? Read John 14:27. Discuss the insights gained on the peace of God from this verse.
- How might the command, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom” lead to receiving and giving love? (Verse 16).