



ALL  
&  
NOTHING

WEEK 5

Living in Christ

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&  
NOTHING

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Living in Christ

## NOTES

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper designed for note-taking. At the top left, there is a dark gray rectangular header bar with the word "NOTES" written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The rest of the page is filled with horizontal dotted lines, providing space for writing.

## WARM-UP

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- In school, at work, or at home, whose example do you like to follow? Why?
  - When was the last time your patience was tested? What happened?
  - Do you have a hard time apologizing? Why or why not?

## WORD

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **COLOSSIANS 3:12-14**

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Knowing who God is and what He has done for us transforms us. As we experience His mercy, love, and grace, we begin a life that is impossible without Christ. We are able to mature, be more like Him, and honor Him with how we live. This change in behavior is a grateful response to our new identity and of God's faithfulness. This is not forced, temporary, or emotional. In this lesson, we will look at what we need to put off or turn away from, and what we need to put on or embrace.

## 1 Put off sin.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming. <sup>7</sup>In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. <sup>8</sup>But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. **COLOSSIANS 3:5-8**

In Christ, we have the power to say no to sin—that which used to enslave and that which we used to live in. In Christ, we are new and empowered to live a godly life. In Christ, we can take radical measures to turn away from unrighteousness and anything that grieves God's heart. According to Colossians 3:5-10, what do we need to put to death or put away?

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## 2 Put on love.

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **COLOSSIANS 3:12-14**

Love holds everything together. It is the unconditional acceptance of others. As people loved by God, we love others. The word "binds" means to unite or join together. Without love, the characteristics in verses 12 and 13 cannot be held in place. Because of who we are in Christ and because of His great love for us, we can reflect and demonstrate this love to others. Love is not based on emotions or circumstances, but it is a decision to do what is right and to serve others. What are we to put on? Why would this be hard—even impossible—without God's love, grace, and power?

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## APPLICATION

- Are you a new creation in Christ? How can you grow in your understanding of your new identity in Christ?
- In what area of your life do you need to put away sin? What will you do about it this week?
- How can you reflect and demonstrate God's love to others this week? Which of the characteristics in Colossians 3:12-14 is not yet evident in your life? How do you think you will grow in that?

## PRAYER

- Thank God that because of His great mercy, love, and grace in your life, the old has passed away, and the new is here!
- Make a decision to turn away from anything the Bible calls sin. Ask God to help make you more like Christ every day. Pray that you will reflect the compassion, kindness, humility, patience, and love that you have experienced in Christ.
- Pray that your life would radiate love. Ask God to help you love as He has loved you—even when it's difficult, painful, or beyond your natural ability.



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