

When Christ is

above all

everything else finds
its proper place.

ABOVE

ALL

THE REAL FIT

Colossians 3:12 – 15

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MESSAGE NOTES

- **Wear the heart of Christ**

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ... — Colossians 3:12 (ESV)

... even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world ... — Ephesians 1:4 (ESV)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." — John 3:16 (ESV)

- **Give the forgiveness you have received**

... 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. — Colossians 3:13 (ESV)

When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly. — 1 Peter 2:23 (ESV)

- **Let love hold it all together**

*And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
— Colossians 3:14 (ESV)*

- **Let the peace of Christ call the shots**

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. — Colossians 3:15 (ESV)

... and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross. — Colossians 1:20 (ESV)

MESSAGE SUMMARY

In Colossians 3:12–15, Paul reminds us that following Jesus isn't just about taking off old habits, but putting on the character of Christ. Because we are chosen, holy, and deeply loved by God, we're called to wear His compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. That becomes especially challenging in our relationships, where we're called to extend the forgiveness we've received, let love hold us together, and allow the peace of Christ to call the shots. The real fit for someone who belongs to Jesus isn't just what we take off, but what we put on and how we love one another.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: If the people closest to you could pick one character quality for you to grow in, what do you think they would choose?
- Read Colossians 3:12. Why is it important that Paul reminds us who we are in Christ before telling us how to live?
- Read Colossians 3:12. Which of these Christlike qualities do you most need to grow in right now, and why?
- Read Colossians 3:13. Who might God be calling you to bear with or extend forgiveness to right now, and what would that look like in your relationship?
- Read Colossians 3:14. Why do you think Paul places love above all the other qualities, and what makes Christian love different from simply being a good person?
- Read Colossians 3:14–15. Why do you think Paul connects Christ’s love and peace so closely with our calling to live together as one body?
- Read Colossians 3:15. As you pray together, share one relationship or area of your life where you need the peace of Christ to “call the shots” this week.