Today I am looking at Colossians chapter 3. Much like the Adult and Teen Sunday School topic in Romans this passage begins with our need to understand our place. Where are we in the grand scheme of things? Well, we are dead. Dead to all that can negatively affect us in this world (3 & 5). And we are alive to all that is of heaven – especially Christ Himself. Because He has made us alive. But we are alive directly opposite from the live we lived before. A change has been made, and, therefore, changes in us need to be made.

Paul gives us short and specific instructions. Consider yourself dead to immorality, impurity, and all that makes itself to be an idol, replacing God (5). He also condemns all those attitudes where we indulge in our selfish passions: anger, wrath, and using our tongue to win at any cost from those who disagree with us (8). He calls us to do just the opposite of what our flesh wants to do; what our pride often delights in doing. We need to put on a new self of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience (12). No, we do not ***need*** to, we ***get*** to put on this new-self. Christ has bought it for us. He delivers it to us through the Holy Spirit, and we get to become something new. We get to become like Christ! What greater thing could we desire to be than to be like our Lord?

Now for the key verses: *Let the peace of Christ be in control in your heart (for you were in fact called as one body to this peace), and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and exhorting one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, all with grace in your hearts to God. And whatever you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.* 3:15-17 NET

The peace that Christ won is to control us. Now that peace came by way of a crucifixion so that does not imply some “Happily ever after” scenario. We may see that peace be a difficult one.

The Word which Christ gave is to dwell in us. To be a Believer is to believe in something you know. The Word of God must be our life.

All that we do is to be at the very direction of Christ himself. Followers follow. We understand that God is in control of life; every event in it. We understand that because His Word saved us and guides us. And we act like every action of ours is directed by the God who loves us, saved us, and is now active in us.

We used to refer to it as walking the talk. We do what we say God has spoken. May we be a blessing in every way to our Lord and to all His.

In Christ Pastor EA