

## Colossians – Session 2

### Outline

1. Through Jesus, God has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and made us citizens of the kingdom of light (1:1-14).
  - *13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. (Col 1:13 NIV).*
  - *10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power (Col 1:10-11 NIV).*
2. Since Jesus is God, He is the highest authority when it comes to life and salvation (1:15-29).
  - *19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things... (Col 1:19-20 NIV).*
  - *28 We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. (Col 1:28 NIV).*
3. The world has its own ideas about life and salvation, but Jesus' way is better (2:1-23).
  - *8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. 9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority (Col 2:8-10 NIV).*
4. As citizens of the Kingdom, we should walk in Christ's way, rather than in our old ways.
  - *1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God (Col 3:1 NIV).*
  - *5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry (Col 3:5 NIV).*
5. We are called to live out the Gospel in everyday, practical ways.
  - *23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,*
  - *24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving (Col 3:23-24 NIV).*

### Questions

1. Read Colossians 3:1-4. How do you 'set your mind on things above'? How does the Cross shape how we think of ourselves? How does eternity shape how we act now?

Heaven is the land of sinless minds. Virus-free thinking. Absolute trust. No fear or anger. Shame and second-guessing are practices of a prior life. Heaven will be wonderful, not because the streets are gold, but because our thoughts will be pure.

So what are you waiting on? Apply God's antivirus. "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:2). – Max Lucado, *Next door Saviour*

2. Look at Colossians 3:5-11. Which is the worst sin? Can you see vestiges of your old life clinging on for dear life? How important is it to get rid of them?

3. Read Colossians 3:12-17. What should Christians wear? What should motivate us? Which of these instructions stand out to you?
  
4. Colossians 3:18-4:1 shows what this new life in Christ looks like on a very every day level. How can you apply these in your own lives?
  
5. Look at Colossians 4:2-6. What are the characteristics of Christians pictured here?
  
6. The conclusion in Colossians 4:7-18 gives us a really interesting insight into what the church in Colossae was like thirty years after Jesus' death and resurrection. What can we learn from their church? How can we apply that at Langford?

*Hear Paul's chains, and you will understand that to be in affliction is no proof of being forsaken. Would you wear silken robes? Remember Paul's chains, and these fine clothes will appear to you more worthless than rags. – John Chrysostom*

