**“Resurrection Life and the New Wardrobe”**

Going deeper in Colossians 3:1-4, 12-17

**INTRODUCTION**

Prior to this the Apostle Paul has warned the church in Colossae about false teachers that have been teaching that if you follow a lot of rules about eating and esoteric religious practices this will somehow make you more spiritual. He has reminded them that they have died with Christ spiritually and have been resurrected into new life. Paul now shows them in this passage what the resurrected life should look like.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 1 Since you have raised up with Christ, seek the things from above where Jesus Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died to the old life and your life now is with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears then you also will appear with Him in glory.

12 So as people chosen by God, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13 Bearing with one another and freely forgive each other if someone has a complaint against you; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 Above all these things put on love, which binds all together in perfect unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ be in control of your hearts, since you were called to be one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ -- His message – live in you in the deepest way. Teach and direct one another with Godly wisdom. Use psalms, songs of praise, and spiritual songs singing with gratitude in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. What do you think it means that we have been “raised up with Christ?”

2. What does it mean to “set your mind on things above?” How might the things listed in verses 12-17 be related to this?

3. What do verses 12-17 tell you about what should be the result of being chosen?

4. Of the characteristics of resurrection life listed in verses 12-17 which ones are ones you feel the Lord has enabled you to do well on? Which are ones where progress is needed?

5. If you are in a small group what are practical ways you can help one another with this?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank the Lord for raising you up into new life.

\*Prayerfully ask Jesus to show where you need to grow in your journey with Him.

\*Ask the Lord to show you how He wants you to bring unity and encouragement to others.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

God has raised you up into new resurrected life and this life should be seen in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness. By the power of the Holy Spirit will these things be seen in your life this week?