
Small Group Discussion Guide — October 12, 2025

- Series: All In All
 - Sermon:
 - Scripture: Colossians 3:1-14 NLT
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FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST WEEK

Darkness is very active throughout the world. Either in your own life or in the world, where did you see God's light shine bright last week?

CONNECT

1. What stood out for you from this week's service, and why?
2. What's something you loved as a kid (a food, hobby, TV show, or fashion trend) that you've totally outgrown?

ENGAGE

Read Colossians 3:1-14 aloud.

1. Remember that Paul wrote this letter to encourage the Colossians, address the concerns Epaphras raised about the influence of cultural pressures, and call them to a deeper devotion to Jesus. In verses 3:1-4, how does Paul do this? What does it mean to "set your minds on things above, not on earthly things"?
2. Paul also challenges the Colossians to live in the present as the kinds of new humans they will one day become. How would you describe the difference between existing in the "old humanity" (vv. 5-9) and living in Jesus' "new humanity" (vv. 12-14)?
3. Read v. 3:11 again. In it, it says "Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us." What does this statement mean to you? How does this truth shape how we see others, especially those who differ from us?

APPLY

1. In his message, Pete said, "We must think higher to go deeper." How can we tell when our thoughts are being shaped more by earthly concerns than by heavenly realities? What practical steps can we take to be more intentional about setting our minds, our prayers and priorities, on things above?
2. Pete emphasized that our *real life* is hidden with Christ, that is, our identity, value, and security. What changes when we truly live from that identity rather than seeking worth in our job, reputation, or possessions?
3. Tim Keller said, "An idol is a good thing that becomes an ultimate thing." But, when we make something other than God our "ultimate thing", it always

disappoints us. What might that idol be for you right now? How can naming it help you turn back to God in repentance and find renewed hope in Him?

4. Paul lists attitudes and behaviors we're called to "put to death." How might these show up subtly in our culture or in us today? Where have you personally experienced God freeing you from something that used to hold you captive?

GOING DEEPER

As Pete said, keeping your mind on Christ is a discipline; an obedience. Name one word you want to "put on" this week, e.g. mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, love. Write it down, keep it in front of you, make an effort to practice it every moment of every day, and reflect on how this new nature changes you and makes you into the Church, reflecting the love of Christ to others.

PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for this day and for Your steadfast love that never changes. You see us in every high and low, and You meet us with grace. We confess that we often let other things take our hearts and minds away from You. Please forgive us. This week, help us to fix our thoughts on You and to live with a clear focus on what matters most. May we boldly be Your Church, clothing ourselves in love, and may the Spirit of Christ rule in our hearts. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE

Psalms 19:1-2

QUOTES

"Thousands and thousands of ideas like the incessant wave of the sea will roll under the boat of your mind-some small, barely noticed and some huge, almost capsizing your life." John Piper

"If it wasn't for my sin, I would be completely resting in Christ, and the resurrection would be spiritually real to me and I would be absolutely fine...but it's my sin that keeps me from spiritual realities that should buoy me up." Tim Keller