



All In On Love
Colossians 3:12-14
February 22, 2026

BIG IDEA

Because believers are God's chosen people in Christ, they are called to intentionally "put on" Christlike love that transforms attitudes, relationships, and the unity of the church. Authentic Christian living is held together by love — expressed through compassion, humility, patience, forgiveness, and grace-filled relationships.

In Colossians 3:12–14, Paul shifts from what believers must "put off" to what they must now "put on" as those who have been made new in Christ. Their new identity as holy and beloved people should be clearly reflected in how they treat others.

Paul lists attitudes that mark a transformed life — compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience — showing that love is not merely a feeling but a way of living.

He then calls believers to forgive one another just as Christ has forgiven them, making forgiveness a defining mark of Christian community.

Above all, Paul commands believers to put on love, because love binds everything together in perfect harmony. When Christians go "ALL IN" on love, their lives become a powerful testimony of Christ's transforming grace.

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3:12-14 (ESV)

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing 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. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

MAIN THEME



Paul teaches that the Christian life is not only about turning away from sin, but about actively living out a new identity in Christ through love-filled attitudes and relationships.

Because believers are God's chosen, holy, and beloved people, their lives should clearly reflect Christlike character — marked by compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

These attitudes are not natural to the world. They are the fruit of the Holy Spirit's transforming work in the life of every believer.

Paul also makes forgiveness central to Christian living. Just as Christ has forgiven us completely, believers are called to forgive one another — refusing to let bitterness, pride, and resentment take root.

Above all, love is what holds everything together. Without love, even the best spiritual actions lose their power. True spiritual maturity is seen when believers go "ALL IN" on love in everyday relationships.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Loving in a Way That Stands Out

Colossians 3:12; John 13:34–35

- Why does Paul remind believers that they are chosen, holy, and beloved before listing behaviors?
- How does knowing your identity in Christ change the way you love others?
- In what ways does Christlike love stand out in today's culture?
- Where is God calling you to love differently this week?

2. Putting On Christlike Attitudes

Colossians 3:12; Galatians 5:22–23

- Which attitudes from Paul's list are hardest for you personally?
- How do compassion and kindness practically show up in everyday life?
- Why are humility and patience so important for healthy relationships?
- How does the Holy Spirit produce these qualities in believers?

3. Choosing Forgiveness Over Bitterness

Colossians 3:13; Ephesians 4:32



- Why is forgiveness essential to Christian unity and witness?
- What happens spiritually when bitterness is allowed to grow?
- How does remembering Christ's forgiveness help you forgive others?
- Is there someone God may be calling you to begin forgiving?

4. Letting Love Hold Everything Together

Colossians 3:14; 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

- Why does Paul place love above all the other attitudes?
- How does love bind relationships and the church together?
- What does it look like to live "ALL IN" on love daily?
- How can Ridgewood reflect Christ's love more visibly in the community?

PRAY

Dear Lord, thank you for calling us your chosen and beloved people in Christ. Help us put on compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, patience, and forgiveness each day. Soften our hearts where bitterness has taken root and teach us to love as you have loved us. Bind our church together in perfect harmony through love and help us live fully "ALL IN" for you. Amen.

DIG DEEPER

For further study this week:

- John 13:34-35 — Loving as Jesus loved
- Galatians 5:22-23 — The fruit of the Spirit
- Ephesians 4:31-32 — Forgiveness and kindness
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 — The supremacy of love
- Romans 12:9-18 — Love in action

NEXT WEEK'S BIG IDEA

Allow peace to rule in your heart.
Colossians 3:15-17

