

Living the Christian Life

Sunday: 8/28/2023 – Colossians 3:1-17 – Will Longenecker, Elder

“A life that honors God and gives Christ the priority is a life well lived and a life pleasing to God.”

Overview

This week Will spoke from Colossians, a foundational passage to the Christian life. A life where Jesus has preeminence. Will told us that as Christians we must give Christ priority in everything. We must reject the ways of the world and live with an eternal perspective, moment by moment by the leading of the Holy Spirit. This passage gives us a contrast of the old and the new life. Will laid out the challenges of the old; the battle over our minds, the priority placed on self, and our ingrained desire to do things on our own. The ideas that our actions and even our bodies are to be placed before Jesus was discussed; it is in putting Jesus first that we find peace and the life that reflects of our future in heaven.

Outline

Give Christ priority over our minds (v2)

- Read / Meditate on God’s Word daily
- Pray constantly
- Make church & community groups a priority
- Rebuke the enemy when you have wrong thoughts – immediately

Give Christ priority over our bodies. (v5-9)

- When we give Christ priority over our bodies, we submit to God’s plan for sex, which is between a man and a woman.

Give Christ priority over our actions (v8-17)

- By putting off worldly vices
- By putting on heavenly virtues

Corroborating Texts

2 Corinthians 10:4-5, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 10:24-25,

Discussion Questions

1. Will spoke of a battle over our minds. We all have TVs, phones, tablets, and laptops in our lives and each of these are conduits for ideas. What are ways that you have allowed these devices and messages to distract you?
2. Will spoke about putting off the old. Our passage tells us to also put on compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, the bearing with one another, forgiveness, and love.
 - a. Which of these areas do you need to grow in?
 - b. What does verse 12 tell us about our relationship with him?
3. Verses 15-16 continue to give us areas to “put on.” Jesus’ peace is to rule and his Word is to dwell. How can you put these commands into practice in your life?
 - a. How do you be keep yourself accountable to the putting off and putting on described in the passage.
4. Was there anything else that stood out in the sermon?