



**Calvary Chapel South Bay
Men's Ministry 2018 – 19**

“Putting Christ First”

Session 10

January 22, 2019

“Putting to death your members”

When we have received by faith the Gospel of Jesus Christ and made Him the preeminent one in our lives, the biggest question that arises after the initial glory of that moment is how can I put that choice into practical experience? How can I change from the way I “once walked” (lived) to the way Jesus wants me to live now that my life is **“hidden in Christ”**? Is this a question that has bothered you; maybe for years? Have your failures been weighing you down to the point where you have cried out to God, asking Him how you can **“put to death”** your old ways. God purposes you to walk according to the Spirit, and not according to your flesh. Ask the Holy Spirit to use this lesson to open your eyes to how you can put to death your members and stop living according to what you **“once”** were.

Passage: Colossians 3:1-7

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: Colossians 3:1

This first verse begins with the assumption that you have received the Gospel personally, and so have been **“raised with Christ”** (go back and read Colossians 2:11-12). What is the first thing you are to do now that you have been raised with Christ?

Scripture: Colossians 3:2-3; Romans 8:5

If we are to not walk in the ways of our flesh, what must we do, and why? Romans 8:5 covers the same principle of the importance of where we set our minds. What does it say the affect will be on how we live when we either set our minds on the flesh versus on the Spirit?

Scripture: Colossians 3:3; Galatians 2:20

What does verse 3 tell us is the reason we should **“seek those things above”** and **“set your mind on things above”**? What does Galatians 2:20 say about how we should look at the **“life I now live”**? What is the vital ingredient we need to let Christ live through us, and not live by our flesh?

Scripture: Colossians 3:4

When we make Christ our life, and continually set our minds on things above, what do we have to look forward to?

Scripture: Colossians 3:5

What are we to do with our **“members”** (our fleshly selves)? To keep the idea of heavenly thinking set in our minds, how does Paul describe where our members are?

Scripture: Colossians 3:6-7

Rather than the glory we who are hidden in Christ can one day expect (V.4), what can the **“sons of disobedience”** expect if they don't turn to Jesus Christ as we have? How does verse 7 keep us humble towards those who don't know Christ yet?

Personal meditation time with Jesus:

From this week's passage, we learn that how we walk is very dependent on what we "**seek**" after; what we "**set our minds**" on in our daily life. Reread Romans 8:5 carefully and meditate on what it says. Really let this simple but powerful truth sink in. What things "**on the earth**" consume too much of your thoughts and efforts? What are the things above, the things of the Spirit, that you must set your mind on more than you have been doing? Make a plan of how you can incorporate those into your daily life. Pray and make a covenant with your Lord and Savior about this. Ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen your resolve to "**put to death your members which are on the earth.**"

Hide God's Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):

"Set your mind on things above, not on the things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

Colossians 3:2-3