



A STUDY IN PHILIPPIANS AND COLOSSIANS

LESSON 25 COLOSSIANS 3:11-17

1. What did you find convicting or comforting from **Colossians 3:1-10**, and what difference did it make?

 2. Pray and ask God what He wants to reveal to you about your relationships as you read through **Colossians 3:11-17**.

 3. **V11** begins with "Here there is no . . ."
 - a) What was Paul referring to, given the context in **V9-10**?

 - b) What do you observe about the different categories in Paul's list of people groups?

 4. What point was Paul making in **V11b**? (See **Romans 10:12** for further insight.).

 5. Paul encouraged believers to let go of cultural biases that could hinder their relationships.
 - a) What individuals or groups within the church do you avoid interacting with because their differences make you feel awkward?

 - b) Where might God be calling you to move past this initial awkwardness and instead nurture Christ-centered relationships?

 6. Paul knew our human tendency to focus on our differences. What did Paul also teach about this in **1 Corinthians 4:7**?
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7. In **V12a**, why might Paul have needed to remind them here of their identity as “chosen people, holy and dearly loved?”
8. a) Paul told them in **V12b** to “clothe themselves” with godly character traits and behaviors. What are they (include a brief description of each)?
- b) Why do you think Paul used the imagery of clothing in connection with these virtues?
- c) Which of these virtues is hardest for you to “put on” each day? Explain.
9. In **V13**, how did Paul say that Christians are to address conflicts in relationships, and where are we to look for our role model?
10. a) Where do you experience difficulty in forgiving others (no names, just situations)?
- b) When have you experienced or witnessed the positive impact of forgiveness? Explain.
11. In your own words, what was Paul saying about love in **V14**?
12. Read through **V15-17**. Where do you see the theme of thankfulness flowing through these verses?
- **V15**
 - **V16**
 - **V17**
13. Write a truth based on **V15**.

14. a) From **V16**, who have been called to the roles of teaching and admonishing, and how does that challenge you?
- b) How can psalms, hymns, or spiritual songs be used to teach or admonish believers? How have you experienced this, either on the giving or receiving end?
15. How does **V17** encourage or convict you as you consider your current daily life?
16. Paul laid out how Christians are to live in relationship with each other. Of all the points he made, which one(s) helps you to press on in confidence in your relationships. Be specific.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. **V13** presents a high standard of forgiveness: "Forgive as the Lord forgave you." How do the following verses add to or challenge your understanding of forgiveness?
- **Matthew 6:12**

 - **Matthew 6:14-15**

 - **Luke 17:3-4**
2. Read **Luke 7:36-47** about God's forgiveness and the different responses to it.
- a) When have you reacted, or witnessed others reacting, like Simon the Pharisee?
- b) When have you reacted, or witnessed others reacting, like the woman?
- c) What are some lessons that you have learned about forgiveness in this account?
3. a) Write the Suggested Memory verse: **Colossians 3:13** (or any other verse from **V11-17**)
- b) Spend some time talking with God about how you can grow in forgiving like Jesus.

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST