

ENGAGE WORKSHEET:

COLOSSIANS 3:1-17 - KEEPING IT REAL

This is a great passage in the Message/especially for younger kids. Here it is in the NASB version - the **questions** work in either version :)

Therefore if you have been **raised up** with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

In what way were we “raised up” with Christ?

How is it even possible (and how do we) pursue things that are above and beyond us?

For you have **died** and **your life is hidden with Christ in God**.

When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

How is it possible that we have died and yet are still breathing?

If our real life is hidden in God, what does this mean and how will it be found again?

Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.

Why does Christ-following require such radical choices - and what do these choices produce for us?

How is it possible to choose to be “dead” to such strong emotions?

But now you also, **put them all aside**: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.

Do not lie to one another, *since you laid aside the old self* with its evil practices, and have **put on the new self** who is being *renewed* to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him - a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, **but Christ is all, and in all**.

What does the work of Christ have to do with our personal choices?

How does a person “put on” the new self when our old one is so comfortable?

How comprehensive is Christ’s position in everything?

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart** of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

What are the interior things that we are to do rather than be offended and complain against others?

What is Paul’s trump card here?

Beyond all these things **put on love**, which is the perfect bond of unity. Let the peace of Christ **rule** in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

Why is it necessary to “put on” love?

How does peace “rule?”

Why is thankfulness so key to spiritual success?

Let the word of Christ **richly** dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks** through Him to God the Father.

What does the word/concept richly bring to your mind?

How does the average, everyday person speak this way? What assets can we use?