

SESSION 3: KINGDOM MINDED

Passage: Colossians 3:1-3

*Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. **3** For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.*

Key Idea: **We are raised with Christ.**

You have been raised with Christ

As Christians, we cannot begin to truly live out this mindset unless we have actually been saved. This is attained only through putting our faith in Jesus Christ and trusting in Him as both our Savior and Lord of our life.

Romans 6:4

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Discussion Questions - Raised with Christ

1. How does the concept of being "raised with Christ" in verse 1 impact the way we view our identity and purpose as Christians?
2. Take time to reflect on your identity in Christ and the significance of being raised with Him. How can you remind yourself of this truth regularly?
3. In what practical ways can you count yourself 'dead to sin but alive to God' (Romans 6:11)?

Key Idea: **Know where to direct our thoughts.**

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things

Our thoughts should be centered on Christ. By choosing to focus on God Himself, we can avoid being consumed by the distractions and temptations of this world.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Discussion Questions - Direct your thoughts

1. According to Colossians 3:1-3, what does it mean to set our minds on things above? How can we practically do this in our daily lives?
2. Discuss the role of spiritual disciplines, such as prayer, meditation, and studying the Word, in cultivating heavenly-mindedness.
3. Consider your daily routines and habits. Are there any adjustments you can make to align them more closely with heavenly values?
4. What practical steps can you take to detach from materialism and focus more on investing in eternal treasures?

Key Idea: **Know who we are in Christ**

Your life is now hidden with Christ

In becoming a Christian, we have been given a new identity in Christ. This means that our lives have been transformed so that everything we say and do should reflect the character of our God.

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! **18** All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: **19** that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.*

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways can the knowledge of our hidden life with Christ impact our confidence and assurance in our faith journey?
2. Reflect on the assurance of your hidden life with Christ. How can this truth empower you to face life's uncertainties with greater confidence?
3. How will you remind yourself of the truth of being hidden with Christ during times of success, disappointment, or temptation?
4. What does it mean that Christ has given us the ministry of reconciliation? What does that look like in your life? What about in the context of our Life Group?

Leadership Resources:

<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/colossians-3/>

<https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/revised-common-lectionary/resurrection-of-our-lord/commentary-on-colossians-31-4-4>

Additional Questions for Consideration:

1. Share personal examples of how earthly desires and distractions have competed with your focus on heavenly things. How do you overcome these challenges?
2. In Romans 12:2, Paul encourages us to not be conformed to the pattern of this world. How can we avoid conformity to worldly values and maintain a Christ-centered perspective?
3. Discuss the relationship between pursuing heavenly-mindedness and living out our faith in the midst of everyday responsibilities and tasks.
4. How can we create a balance between engaging with the world and setting our minds on things above, without becoming isolated or disconnected from society?
5. Reflect on the phrase "your life is now hidden with Christ in God." What does this mean in terms of protection, security, and significance in our lives?
6. How does the truth of our hidden life with Christ influence our attitudes toward material possessions and worldly achievements?

7. Share a testimony of a time when focusing on heavenly things brought a sense of peace and perspective during a challenging circumstance.
8. How can we support and encourage one another as a small group in pursuing a mindset focused on eternity and heavenly values?
9. Reflect on the ways earthly pursuits can distract us from our relationship with Christ. How can we develop a greater awareness of these distractions and combat them?
10. In what practical ways can we live out the truth that our ultimate citizenship is in heaven, as mentioned in Philippians 3:20?
11. Share with the group some practical steps you plan to take to set your mind on things above and embrace your hidden life with Christ.
12. How will you intentionally set your mind on things above throughout each day, even amidst your daily responsibilities and challenges?
13. Share with the group some practical strategies you've implemented to resist conformity to worldly patterns and mindsets.
14. Identify one area in your life where you can practice selflessness and demonstrate Christ-like love to others. How will you carry this out?
15. Share a testimony of how pursuing heavenly-mindedness has positively impacted your relationships or interactions with others.
16. Discuss with the group how you can hold one another accountable in maintaining heavenly-mindedness and supporting each other in spiritual growth.
17. Choose a Bible passage that specifically emphasizes heavenly values and meditate on it throughout the week. Share your insights with the group afterward.
18. Reflect on the ways you engage with media and entertainment. How can you filter and moderate these influences to maintain a heavenly perspective?
19. Consider the language and topics of your conversations. How can you steer discussions toward edifying and spiritually uplifting content?
20. As a group, pray for each other's journey in pursuing heavenly-mindedness and living out the reality of our hidden life with Christ.