

1. Motivate

What's a positive example of actions speaking louder than words?

A video introduction is available. View it at https://watch.liberty.edu/media/t/1_6esnv51j

2. Transition

As Christians, we claim to have the love of Jesus in our hearts.

- How we live communicates whether or not that is a reality.
- This will affect how believable is our witness to them.

3. Bible Study

3.1 Seek the Things of Christ

Listen for where to set your thoughts.

Colossians 3:1-3 (NIV) 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.

What are Christians to desire (seek)?

What is the significance of Christ being at the right hand of God?

Paul says, "you died." What are the implications of that statement in the context of these verses?

How exactly do we set our heart and mind on things above? What are these "things above" that we should set our minds on?

What are some challenges we may face in trying to live an authentic Christian life? What are earthly things which try to crowd out these "things above"?

What evidence would cause people to say someone is more focused on things above and not on what's here on earth?

3.2 Put On the Character of Christ

Listen for what to wear.

Colossians 3:12-15 (NIV) Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

With what qualities of life should we clothe ourselves, according to this passage?

If these are, indeed, *fruit* of the Spirit, how do we “put them on” when they are qualities that are *produced* by God's Holy Spirit? What is the Holy Spirit's role? What is my role?

The Spirit's Role	The Believer's Role

When Paul says “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts” he uses a term similar to the rule of an umpire or referee in a sports competition. What kinds of rulings does an umpire or referee make?

How would this apply to the “peace of Christ” making the calls, making the rulings in our relationship with others?

Paul says, “and be thankful”... what does this have to do with living out the message of the Gospel?

3.3 Your Life Should Point to Christ

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Live the Message

Listen for music.

Colossians 3:16-17 (NIV) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

What does it mean to have the “word of Christ dwell in you richly”?

What actions demonstrate that believers treasure the word of Christ?

How has music helped shape your knowledge and understanding of God?

What are some signs that show when our lives *don't* match the message we share?

How would acting “in the Name of Jesus” help us avoid some of these un-Christlike attitudes and actions?

Application

Confess.

- Are there any areas of your life that don't align with the message of Christ?
- Pray and ask God to reveal any sins or habits.
- Confess those and repent.

Accept correction.

- Give a trusted friend permission to point out times when you are thinking more like the world or when you are thinking not like Christ.

Share.

- As God gives you opportunities to share your faith, be willing to admit your own sin and failure.
- It's important to be transparent but keep the focus on Christ who has forgiven and transformed you.

Word Search Puzzle

ALLOWANCE
 BINDS
 BODY
 CALLED
 CHOSE
 CHRIST
 CLOTHE
 COUNSEL
 DIED
 EARTH
 FAULTS
 FILL
 FORGIVE
 GENTLENESS
 HARMONY
 HEARTS
 HEAVEN
 HIDDEN
 HOLY
 HONOR
 HUMILITY
 HYMNS
 KINDNESS
 LOVE

U R C S D T T Y L E B O D Y M H H U N E H Y M N S I
 O W S S E O L O H F D E G H U E S Y A Y M L L A D T
 N E T E S G V U H H T Y C R E M H S L H E A V E N F
 H T L N I E I R F R I C H N E S S O U S M L T D I G
 E U U D A T N S A K L S P S A V H M N R B C P M B L
 R E A N R H I E I S N A S E Y W I U I O E H T O L C
 M E F I E E H L L N T A U E A L O G E F R Y S D E N
 V H I K N R A V A T G R H T I C D L R I S M A S T P
 K S L R E P R E S E N T A T I V E E L O L O T I F C
 H S L D D O M S E F R E Y E S R P C L A F H N W R H
 I A N N D I O O E A P A G E H E I S S L G A H G I G
 D E I D I H N H E N E C N E I T A P N I A S E E S D
 T S I R H C Y C E H E H O F F E N D S S E C O T R S

MEMBERS
 MERCY
 MESSAGE
 OFFENDS
 PATIENCE
 PEACE
 PEOPLE
 PERFECT
 PSALMS
 RAISED
 REALITIES
 REPRESENTATIVE
 RICHNESS
 RULE
 SIGHTS
 SING
 SONGS
 SPIRITUAL
 TEACH
 TENDERHEARTED
 THANKFUL
 TOGETHER
 WISDOM
 YOURSELVES



That's a lot of words that got lost on the page. Humph! Somebody is responsible for this mix up, that's for sure. You and your class better find them. You'll also want to remind yourselves of the context where the words came from ... that Bible passage from today's lesson. Probably that person beside you needs to study it. Humph! If you wimp out, go to <https://tinyurl.com/5d9pbsb> for help or for more Family Activities