

**Growing One Another:
Discipleship in the Church
Week 3 - The Motivations of Discipleship**

Getting Started:

1. Is there anything in your life that you're required to do, but you consistently struggle to find the motivation for? How do you respond? Where do you go to find the motivation you need?

Main Idea

We should grow as Christians and help others do the same because of who God is, what he has done for us in Christ, and who he has made us in Christ.

Digging In

Put On the New Self

3 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.¹

¹ [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Col 3:1–13). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

1. **In verses 1-4, share the statements that are motivating to the believer and that would indirectly apply to the discipleship context.**

This motivation for discipleship is way better than a "just do it" approach based out of pure obligation. We disciple because we love God!

In sum, the first four verses of this passage motivate our growth in godliness by reminding us of our death to sin and new life in Christ, and the certain hope of future glory with Christ.

- 1. What does Paul say to "put to death" in verse 5? What does it mean to "put to death" a certain behavior or attitude? How do we teach others to do the same?**
- 2. How does the imagery of putting off and putting on in verses 8-13 become a powerful picture for us and those we disciple as we strive to become like Jesus?**
- 3. Share your thoughts on verse 13. How would you counsel someone with this verse who might be struggling self-righteousness and bitterness toward someone else? How does verses 1-4 add weight to this verse?**

In this study, we've seen that God gives us a rich variety of motivations to spur us on to grow in godliness and help others do the same. Part of the point is that those two things go together. You shouldn't JUST grow in godliness...we should bring others along. In a healthy church, you also help others do the same...motivated by a love for God.

- 1. Share wrong motivations you have had in the past when it comes to discipleship. How has some of what we talked about today maybe encouraged you to pursue discipleship in the right way?**
- 2. What impact have you seen the truths in this passage have on those you have discipled?**