



Saved 2 Serve 2024 Teen Devotion

SAVED²SERVE

COWBOY MISSIONS CAMP

Day #1

As children of God, we know we are saved for a purpose: not only love and live for Jesus but also to serve others as we go. This year's theme verse for camp is Colossians 3:23: '*Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.*' - Throughout the week, we will discuss and study this verse together. But right now, while you have this time by yourself- just you for a few minutes.... Let's take a look at the whole context of Colossians 3 and see what these verses tell us before we get to the "Whatever" of verse 23.

Now, I know we are on summer break and many of you are probably praising Jesus for not being in English class, but let's take a look at a few imperatives found in Colossians 3..

Remember an "imperative" is a command; something that demands attention or action; a requirement; necessity. Colossians 3 is full of them, so we should pay attention!

Read Colossians 3:1-8 (Take some time, slow down and soak in these verses)

Now let's list some imperatives. What do these 8 verses tell Believers to do?

Vs.1 Keep _____

Vs.2 Set _____

Vs. 5 Put to death _____

Vs. 8 Put aside _____

Now spend some time in prayer asking God to help you

- * **Keep seeking** things above, not the things this world has to offer
- * **Set your mind** on things above (Jesus and HIS Word)
- * **Put to death** earthly sins- immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, greed-idolatry
- * **Put aside** anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech

Day #2

Yesterday, we looked at Colossians 3:1-8 and saw some things Scripture tells us, as Christians, to 'put aside.' Today, we are going to examine more verses in Colossians 3 and see what Scripture instructs us to 'put on.'"

Read Colossians 3:12-15

Because God has chosen us to be his children- holy and loved, we have been set apart.

The definition of "holy" is to be dedicated or devoted to the service of God; Specially recognized as or declared sacred.

Think about that.... God chooses us and then calls us "holy"!!! That is a big deal to wrap our minds around, Right?!

This week, you have all been divided into color teams: Red, Yellow, Blue, Orange, and Green. One way you are representing your team is by what you are 'putting on' (the colors you are wearing) and how you respond (yelling and cheering for your team). In Colossians 3:12-15, God instructs us to 'put on' certain things and respond in specific ways."

List the things God tells His chosen people to put on: (vs.12 & 14)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

List how we are to respond: (vs.13 & 15)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Spend some time in prayer asking God to help you put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Ask Him to help you respond to others and situations by bearing with one another, forgiving each other, and letting the peace of Christ rule in your heart.

Day #3

The last two days we have focused on what God's Word tells us to "put aside" in our lives and what to "put on". Today let's look at a couple more imperatives in Colossians 3:15-17. (Remember imperatives are commands/instructions)

Read Colossians 3:15-17

List the Imperative in vs. 15-17

1. Let the _____ of Christ _____ in your hearts.
That means God's peace trumps any and all situations or circumstances we face in our lives. We can choose fear or anxiety or we can "LET the peace of Christ rule"!

2. Let the Word of Christ _____.

Definition of Dwell: to live or stay; to continue on; to linger.

Vs. 16 tells us to "let the Word richly *dwell*" in us. The word *richly* means "in full measure". It means extravagantly, grand, large, luxuriously. So we are not just to dabble in God's Word- we are to go all in and saturate our lives in these Holy Scriptures... we are to soak in them like a sponge soaks up water! The more we "dwell" in The Word the more it takes up residence in our daily lives. The rest of verse 16 tells us how to do just that- "*with all wisdom (from God) teaching and admonishing (encouraging) one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts God.*"

3. _____ you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Definition of Whatever: anything or everything; no matter what

No matter what we, as followers of Jesus, are doing — in our relationships, work, play, sports, chores, our language, and the way we treat others — 'WHATEVER' we are doing, we are to do it in a way that honors and represents the name of the Lord Jesus!

Now pray and ask God to help you to live your life in "WHATEVER" mode... That all you say and do honors HIM and brings HIM glory!