

**The Superiority of Christ**  
**The Path of Spiritual Maturity (Part 2)**  
**Colossians 3:1-4**

**Introduction**

In Chapter 1, Paul expresses his commitment to helping the Colossians move toward spiritual maturity. Now in Chapter 3, he teaches them the path to achieve it.

1. The path begins with cultivating a mental focus on what God has provided for us through \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Because of the victory of the Cross, Jesus unleashes the power of the Holy Spirit to gradually \_\_\_\_\_ our lives.
3. To grow in Christ, we must cultivate a mental focus on God's provisions through Jesus and his death on the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. When we become followers of Christ, He gives us a new \_\_\_\_\_ and direction for our lives.

**I. Put to Death Your Worldly Lifestyle**

5. Because of Christ, we can put to death the things that are contrary to our \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus.
6. Giving in to sensual appetites gives it the very food and nourishment by which it lives, \_\_\_\_\_, and is active.
7. Fornication, uncleanness, passion, and evil \_\_\_\_\_ are terms that refer to sexual sins.
8. Covetousness is insidious \_\_\_\_\_ that leads to idolatry.
9. Sin is self-destructive and leads you further and further away from \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Authentic Christians can never be comfortable in \_\_\_\_\_ sin.
11. A true Christian realizes his sin, \_\_\_\_\_ it to God, and turns away from it.
12. Paul calls sinful behaviors the \_\_\_\_\_ of the old man (the sinful person).
13. He says that anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, and filthy language flow out of the \_\_\_\_\_ of a sinner.
14. Putting off the old man with his deeds means letting go of your \_\_\_\_\_ ways and lifestyle and pursuing the transforming work of Christ.
15. God's work in you will make you a \_\_\_\_\_ person.
16. Only Christ can change you and deliver you from your sinful \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Instead of just putting off the old self-centered life, we must put on the \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle that fits who we now are in Christ.

## **II. Put On the New Godly Lifestyle**

18. The phrase Paul uses was commonly used for changing a set of \_\_\_\_\_.
19. The new man is \_\_\_\_\_ to know what *God* says in His Word.
20. God's new creation work breaks down the \_\_\_\_\_ that separate people in society.
21. God's love reaches out to \_\_\_\_\_ people, even those of extreme positions and lifestyles.

## **III. Characteristics of the New Life In Christ.**

22. As a new person in Christ, we are the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
23. The first thing Paul says we are to put on is tender \_\_\_\_\_.
24. The ancient writers defined \_\_\_\_\_ as the virtue of the person whose neighbor's welfare is as dear to him as his own.
25. Humility is the " \_\_\_\_\_ " of meekness and longsuffering.
26. Meekness determines how humility affects my actions towards \_\_\_\_\_.
27. Longsuffering determines how humility affects my \_\_\_\_\_ and responses.
28. Christians \_\_\_\_\_ one another.
29. Forgiveness is the \_\_\_\_\_ to revenge and wanting to retaliate.
30. God makes the \_\_\_\_\_ move towards us in forgiveness.
31. God's forgiveness is so \_\_\_\_\_ that He restores those who have offended to fellowship and meaningful position.
32. God keeps reaching out to us even when we \_\_\_\_\_ Him again and again, but our human nature is to give up on people who reject us.
33. When God forgives us, He restores us and puts His \_\_\_\_\_ in us.
34. Love is the \_\_\_\_\_ of all the things described in this passage.

35. Love perfectly fulfills what God requires of us in our \_\_\_\_\_.

## Conclusion

36. \_\_\_\_\_ is the standard for discerning God's will.

37. Let the peace of Christ judge, decide, and \_\_\_\_\_ your heart.

When God's presence dwells within you, your heart can't help but burst forth with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. God delights in creative, spontaneous worship. And the Holy Spirit within you cries out in praise to God through words and songs that are anointed worship! Live your life, all of your life, for Jesus. And whatever you do, do it for the name of the Lord and for His glory!

## ANSWERS

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|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Christ     | 23. Mercies      |
| 2. Transform  | 24. Kindness     |
| 3. Cross      | 25. Parent       |
| 4. Purpose    | 26. Others       |
| 5. Identity   | 27. Reactions    |
| 6. Thrives    | 28. Forgive      |
| 7. Desire     | 29. Antedote     |
| 8. Greed      | 30. First        |
| 9. God        | 31. Complete     |
| 10. Habitual  | 32. Knowing      |
| 11. Confesses | 33. Trust        |
| 12. Lifestyle | 34. Summary      |
| 13. Mouth     | 35. Relationship |
| 14. Worldly   | s                |
| 15. Better    | 36. Peace        |
| 16. Heart     | 37. Govern       |
| 17. New       |                  |
| 18. Clothes   |                  |
| 19. Hungry    |                  |
| 20. Barriers  |                  |
| 21. All       |                  |
| 22. Elect     |                  |