**Rooted in Christ – A Study of Colossians—Lesson 14**

Women of Grace|GraceLife Church

*(Putting Sin to Death part 2; Verses 8-11)*

*Therefore, consider the members of your earthly body as dead to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. 6 On account of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now you also, lay them all aside: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you put off the old man with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new man who is being renewed to a full knowledge according to the image of the One who created him—11 a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, and freeman, but Christ is all and in all. -- Colossians 3:5-11*

**Day 1**—Verse 8

*But now you also, lay them all aside: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and abusive*

*speech from your mouth. --Colossians 3:8*

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1. The phrase “put them all away” comes from the Greek apotithēmi and is used to describe the taking off of clothes. How does that help you to understand what we are to do with these sins?
2. Define wrath.
3. Define anger.
	1. Is there ever a time when anger is appropriate? Use Scripture to support you answer.
	2. What is the difference between wrath and anger?
4. Define and give an example of malice.
5. Define slander. Is there a difference between gossip and slander?
	1. At what point does discussion about others or passing on information about others become gossip or slander?
6. Define abusive speech (other translations use obscene talk, filthy language, foul words).

**Day 2**—Verse 8

*But now you also, lay them all aside: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and abusive*

*speech from your mouth. --Colossians 3:8*

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1. From these verses, what should characterize the speech of a believer?
	1. Proverbs 15: 1-2
	2. Proverbs 31:26
	3. Ephesians 4:15
	4. Ephesians 4:29
	5. Colossians 4:6
	6. James 1:19
2. The sins we covered in Lesson 13 were sexual sins; the sins we cover in this lesson are social sins, or sins of the tongue. What does James 3:1-12 tell us about the tongue?
3. Read Mark 7:21-23. What is the source of wrath, anger, malice, slander, and abusive
speech?
4. According to Matthew 15: 18, where do slander and abusive speech come from?
	1. How does our speech reveal the condition of the heart?
5. How does the presence of these things hinder us in our walk with the Lord?
6. How do we put these things aside? See the example in Ephesians 4:31-32.
7. How does Hebrews 12:1-3 encourage you to lay aside these sins?

**Heart check:**

* Does your speech reflect the fact that you are a believer?
* John Calvin says, “Talkativeness is a disease of women, and it gets worse with age.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement? How can 1 Timothy 4:7, 5:13 and Titus 2:3-5 help you to be aware that speech is something we must constantly work on?
* Do you struggle with any of the sins listed above? What will you do to put them off?

**Day 3**—Verse 9

*Do not lie to one another, since you put off the old man with its evil practices,*

*-- Colossians 3:9*

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1. According to this verse, what is the reason we must not lie to each other?
	1. How is lying inconsistent with our new self?
2. What is the old man with its evil practices?
	1. Is this how you view your old self?
3. Read Acts 5:1-11. How seriously does God view deceit?
4. Who is the father of lies? See John 8:44.
5. What is the first lie recorded in Scripture? Who said it? What were the consequences of
it?
6. In God's eyes, is a “little white lie” different from lying in general?
7. How are exaggeration and withholding information both forms of lying?
	1. Why is it important when relaying information that we say it exactly as it was said to us in both content and delivery (inflection, body language, etc.)?
8. How is portraying one image in public and another in private life a form of lying?
	1. How can you work to bring these two realities together?

**Heart check:**

* Do you view deceit as seriously as God does? If not, why not?

**Day 4**—Verse 10

*and have put on the new man who is being renewed to a full knowledge according*

*to the image of the One who created him—Colossians 3:10*

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1. What is the new man?
	1. How do the New Covenant promises in Ezekiel 36:25-29 help us understand the new man and what God has done for us?
	2. How does the work of Christ on our behalf in transforming us into the new man give you motivation to put off sin and put on the new man?
2. What does it mean for something to be renewed?
3. What is the goal of our renewal?
4. What does the word renewed tell you about the new self?
5. What is the source of this knowledge in the life of a believer?
6. Read Romans 8:28-29. How does that passage help you understand Paul's meaning in
this verse?
7. Who is doing the renewing of our new self?
8. Read Philippians 2:12-13. How do those verses help you understand the renewal process?

**Heart Check:**

* Have you ever felt defeated by any of the sins listed in the above verses? How can this verse encourage you to in the process of sanctification?

**Day 5**—Verse 11

*a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised*

*and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, and freeman, but Christ is all and*

*in all. --Colossians 3:11*

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1. The categories here are about religion, culture, and status. If none of these are relevant
in God's family, what does this tell you about what the church should look like?

1. How does Galatians 3:26-29 help you better understand this verse?
2. What barriers between different groups do we see in the church today that threaten to undo what the gospel has accomplished?
	1. What is the means of tearing down these barriers?
3. Who is the believer’s identity to be found in? What are some ways in which we can identify ourselves that have the potential of causing division in the church?
4. The gospel does not classify people the same way that the world does (by skin color,
nationality, class, etc.). Instead, it calls us all brothers (see Col. 1:2). What does this tell you about how we should view each other?
5. The world tells us that one of the greatest problems in our world is racism (which is really ethnic prejudice since there is only one race, the human race). How does this verse address that problem?
	1. What is the antidote to ethnic prejudice?
6. What does it mean that Christ is all and in all from this verse?

**Heart check:**

* Do you have prejudice against any other category of people? What should you do
if you do?

**Dig Deeper:**

One of the areas ethnic prejudice is allowed to flourish is under the banner of Critical Race Theory and Intersectionality (CRT/I).

For further studies on the dangers of CRT, listen to the *Just Thinking* podcast Episode #108: “Critical Race Theory” (found on Apple or Android Podcasts and https://justthinking.me/ep-108-critical-race-theory/).

For Further Reading: *Faultlines* by Voddie Baucham and *Christianity and Wokeness* by Owen Stachan (both are available in the church library).