

The Christian Home

Colossians 3

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC

Sunday, July 24th

Colossians 3 contains God's Blue-print for a Christian Home. As we "Walk through" God's idea of a Christian home, It is my prayer that we will begin to recognize areas in our own homes that should and could be remodeled to better reflect the testimony of the Lord.

PART ONE: THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A CHRISTIAN HOME.

1. A Personal Relationship With God That Is Characterized By.

A. PEACE: *"Let the Peace of God rule (LITERALLY GOVERN) in your hearts..."* vs 15

B. THANKFULNESS: *"and be ye thankful."* Vs 15 (Criticism is Contagious!)

C. A SPIRITUAL DIET. *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" Vs 16*

1) Produces the right Wisdom: *"...in all wisdom"* (The Ability to see God's perspective.)

2) Produces the right Warnings: *"Teaching and admonishing (cautioning) one another."* Vs 16

3) Produces the Right Worship: *"Singing with Grace in your hearts to the Lord"*

D. ACCOUNTABILITY: *"Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus."* Vs 17, 23-25

1) We are accountable to Christ for every word, thought, motive, and deed. (Ps. 19:14; Pr. 15:3)

2. A Practical Relationship With Each Other That Is Characterized By:

A. MERCY Vs 12

1) Everything this side of Hell is Grace and Mercy.

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." (Lam 3:22, 23)

2) Failure is inevitable, Mercy is Optional.

3) God calls us to be witnesses, not judges.

B. KINDNESS: (Khray-stot'-ace) usefulness or gentle excellence. (Eph. 4:31)

"giving all diligence add to your faith... brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity." (2 Pet 1:7)

1) We are often kinder to strangers than to our own family!

C. HUMILITY: *"humbleness of mind" Vs 12*

(Phil 2:3) *"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory;..."*

"Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." (1 Pet 5:5)

D. MEEKNESS: (Gentleness) Mt. 11:29-30 *"learn of me for I am meek...!"*

E. FORBEARING ONE ANOTHER (To Put up with)

F. FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER (To release a debt.)

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." (Eph 4:32)

G. LOVING ONE ANOTHER. *"above all things put on charity..." Vs 14*

1) **The right temperature at home is maintained by warm hearts, not by hotheads.**

2) The Christian home is one where Christ would be comfortable.

APPLICATION:

- **Being a Christian does not guarantee you will have a Christian Home.**
 - **A Christian Home is one where Christ is honored as the Head and where He is made comfortable.**
 - **A Christian Home will need periodic “House Cleaning”** *(See Col 3:1-10)*
 - **This requires a regular choice. Notice the command: “Put on...”**
- "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." (Joshua 24:15)*

REMEMBER THE CARPENTER OF GALILEE IS AVAILABLE AND SKILLED IN REMODELING OUR HEARTS AND HOMES!

DESTRUCTION OF SOCIETY

Sociologist and historian Carle Zimmerman, in his 1947 book *Family and Civilization*, recorded his keen observations as he compared the disintegration of various cultures with the parallel decline of family life in those cultures. Eight specific patterns of domestic behavior typified the downward spiral of each culture Zimmerman studied.

- * Marriage loses its sacredness; is frequently broken by divorce.
- * Traditional meaning of the marriage ceremony is lost.
- * Feminist movements abound.
- * Increased public disrespect for parents and authority in general.
- * Acceleration of juvenile delinquency, promiscuity, and rebellion.
- * Refusal of people with traditional marriages to accept family responsibilities.
- * Growing desire for and acceptance of adultery.
- Increasing interest in and spread of sexual perversions and sex-related crimes.

“The Christian home is the Master's workshop where the processes of character molding are silently, lovingly, faithfully and consistently carried on.”