



Growing Toward Jesus!

July 16, 2023 – Col. 3:12-17

Pastor Jon Pickens

Working Through the Passage

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing 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. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Notes on the Passage

Six Guidelines to Grow Towards Jesus

1. Practice towards your **position**!
2. Make the peace of Christ a **priority**!
3. **Internalize** the Word!
4. **Externalize** the Word!
5. Make Jesus the **reason** why you do what you do!
6. Be **Thankful**!

Discussion Questions:

1. What are you doing to become more like Jesus in character? What characteristic in verse 12-14 seems to be the biggest challenge for you and why?
2. How are you making peace a priority in your life? What practical action can you take this week to pursue peace?
3. What does it look like for the Word of Christ to dwell in you richly?
4. How is Jesus the reason for why you do what you do?
5. What rhythm can you commit to this week to nurture a heart of gratitude towards God?
6. What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?

Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be in the room behind the Welcome Center after the service.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at pj@fbclowell.org.
3. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

July 2023

(Two Year Reading Plan, Month 18)

Week 1 Starting July 3	Week 2 Starting July 10	Week 3 Starting July 17	Week 4 Starting July 24
Day 1: Ecclesiastes 10-12	Day 1: Matt 5-6	Day 1: Matt 13-14	Day 1: Matt 22-23
Day 2: Song of Songs 1-4	Day 2: Matt 7-8	Day 2: Matt 15-16	Day 2: Matt 24
Day 3: Song of Songs 5-8	Day 3: Matt 9	Day 3: Matt 17-18	Day 3: Matt 25
Day 4: Matt 1-2	Day 4: Matt 10-11	Day 4: Matt 19-20	Day 4: Matt 26
Day 5: Matt 3-4	Day 5: Matt 12	Day 5: Matt 21	Day 5: Matt 27-28

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,
¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,
¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.
 Titus 2:11-14 (ESV)

What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?