

**Objective:** Family members focus on the things of God, putting off sinful attitudes and actions and putting on godly ones.

**How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible:** Paul likely wrote his letter to the believers at Colossae around AD 61-62 while under house arrest in Rome.

**Bible Basics:** Go over the following question and answer this week with family members. **Where is Jesus now? Answer:** Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended into Heaven (Acts 1:1-3) where He now lives, seated at the right hand of the Father (Colossians 3:1).

## Read the Word: Colossians 3:1-17

## Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand that we are to focus on what is good and right instead of what is bad. We are to take off sinful attitudes and behavior and put on good ones.



### **Key Truth: Believers Focus on God and His Ways Rather Than on the World and Its Ways (Colossians 3:1-4)**

- Our spiritual union with Christ means that we have been raised with Him just as we were crucified and buried with Him. We are to set our minds and hearts on things above, beyond this world, where Christ is at the right hand of God. Even while living on earth, we make the everlasting things of God our primary focus rather than sinful earthly things (verses 1-2).
- Our spiritual reality is that we are now secure and safe with Christ. He is now our reason for living and we will appear with Him when He returns in glory (verses 3-4).



### **Key Truth: Believers Set Aside Old, Sinful Ways and Put on New, Godly Ways (Colossians 3:5-17)**

- Because of our new life in Christ, believers are to put to death sinful appetites such as sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desires, and covetousness. Sins like these are the reason God's wrath is coming. Before Christ we lived according to these passions, but now we are ashamed of them (verses 5-7).
- Like changing clothes, believers are to put off sins like anger, wrath, malice, slander, obscene language, and lying. We do so because we have put off the old, sinful self and have put on the new self that is being made more like Christ. This blessing is available to all people through Christ regardless of our differences (verses 8-11).
- We are to put on traits of Jesus such as compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Christ calls us to bear with one another, forgive one another, and above all, to love one another. We should model peace and thanksgiving (verses 12-15).
- Believers make God's Word part of their very nature. We teach it to one another. We refer to it to admonish or encourage one another. It flows out of our hearts in song and thanksgiving. Everything we say and do is to be done in Jesus' name and for His glory (verses 16-17).

# Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- **How do people become new when they trust Christ as Savior?**
- What does it mean to set our minds on things above? What do we begin to focus on?
- What are some things we are to cast aside once we trust Christ as Savior and Lord?
- **What are some godly attitudes and actions we should take on as followers of Christ?**
- **What sinful attitude or action could you more fully put off this week?**
- **What godly attitude or action could you more fully put on this week?**

## Everyday Extras

Recycle a milk jug to make a bird feeder, a garden tool, a school supply organizer, or a home decoration. To make a great scoop for dog kibble or cat litter, cut off the bottom of a clean half-gallon milk jug. Then cut away the plastic below the jug's handle. Round the sides next to the cut-away sections. (You can find instructions here: [howtomakes.org/diy-recycled-milk-jug-crafts-for-kids](http://howtomakes.org/diy-recycled-milk-jug-crafts-for-kids).) You've made something new out of trash! That's what God did for us. We are recycled too! He made us new people, so we think and act a new way. We quit doing the things we did before He made us new. We do everything we do to please Him.

## Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned the Devil tried to tempt Jesus, which means he tried to get Jesus to sin (go against God's way). Jesus was tired and hungry in the desert. The Devil tried to trick Jesus into turning some rocks into bread. Jesus used God's Word to keep Him from sinning. We can do the same. **The Bible Is for Everyone** and it will help us say no to the Devil.