

Bible Study Lesson: New Life in Christ - 03192026

Focal Scripture (NIV – Colossians 3:1–11)

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.

8 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices

10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Lesson Objectives

- Understand what it means to set our hearts and minds on things above.
- Recognize the call to put to death sinful behaviors and live in newness of life.
- Reflect on the transformation from the old self to the new self in Christ.
- Embrace the unity of all believers in Christ, regardless of background.
- Prepare hearts for Sunday School lessons on Acts 10:9–15, 30–35 and Galatians 3:28–29.

Verse Breakdown and Insights

- Verses 1–4: Believers are raised with Christ; our focus must be heavenly, not earthly. Our true life is hidden in Him.

- Verses 5–7: Sinful desires and practices must be put to death. These belong to the old life.
- Verses 8–9: Anger, malice, slander, and lying must be removed—relationships are transformed by truth and love.
- Verses 10–11: The new self is renewed in Christ’s image. In Him, all divisions are erased—Christ is all and in all.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to set your heart and mind on things above?
2. Why is it important to “put to death” sinful desires rather than just suppress them?
3. How does putting on the new self change our relationships with others?
4. What does verse 11 teach us about unity in Christ?
5. How can this passage help us prepare to embrace diversity and equality in the body of Christ?

Memory Verse

Colossians 3:2 (NIV): Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Why This Lesson Prepares Us for Acts 10:9–15, 30–35 and Galatians 3:28–29

- Acts 10:9–15, 30–35: Peter learns that God shows no favoritism and accepts all who fear Him. Colossians 3:11 echoes this truth—Christ is in all.
- Galatians 3:28–29: Paul teaches that in Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free. Colossians 3:11 prepares us to embrace this unity.
- Together, these passages highlight transformation in Christ—new life, new unity, and new mission.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for raising us with Christ and giving us new life. Help us to set our hearts and minds on things above, to put to death sinful desires, and to live renewed in Your image. Teach us to embrace unity in Christ, seeing Him in all people. Prepare us to serve others with love and truth, as Your Spirit leads. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Fill-in-the-Blank Worksheet (Participant Version)

Bible Study Worksheet: Colossians 3:1–11 (NIV)

Focus Scripture

“Since, then, you have been _____ with Christ, set your _____ on things above, where Christ is.” (v.1)

“Set your _____ on things above, not on _____ things.” (v.2)

“Do not _____ to each other, since you have taken off your _____ self with its practices.” (v.9)

“Here there is no Gentile or Jew... but _____ is all, and is in all.” (v.11)

Lesson Objectives

1. Understand what it means to set our _____ and _____ on things above.
2. Recognize the call to put to _____ sinful behaviors.
3. Reflect on the transformation from the _____ self to the _____ self.
4. Embrace the _____ of all believers in Christ.

Verse Breakdown

- Verses 1–4: Believers are _____ with Christ; our focus must be _____.
- Verses 5–7: Sinful desires must be put to _____.
- Verses 8–9: Remove anger, malice, slander, and _____.
- Verses 10–11: The new self is renewed in Christ’s _____.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to set your _____ and _____ on things above?
2. How does putting on the _____ self change our relationships with others?
3. What does verse 11 teach us about _____ in Christ?

Memory Verse

Fill in the blanks:

“Set your _____ on things above, not on _____ things.” (Colossians 3:2)

Connection to Acts & Galatians

- Acts 10: God shows no _____ and accepts all who fear Him.
- Galatians 3: In Christ there is neither Jew nor _____, slave nor free.
- Colossians 3: Believers are renewed in Christ’s _____, and He is in all.