

WORD

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. COLOSSIANS 3:17

In writing the book of Colossians, the Apostle Paul gave instructions to the early Christians, providing them a contrast of living a godly lifestyle versus a worldly one. This is relevant to the challenges we face as believers today—many things, such as our work, relationships, education, career, and hobbies, have the potential to take God’s place in our lives. In this lesson, we will learn how to put God first and live a lifestyle of honoring and worshiping Him.

1 Seek God above all else.

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. COLOSSIANS 3:1,2

When we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are to seek Him first in everything we do. It does not only mean going to church or Victory group weekly, but living a life that honors and obeys Him daily. This starts with making a decision to set our hearts and minds to seek God. One of the primary ways that we can seek God is through reading our Bible every day, and putting what we’ve read into practice. What does God promise us when we seek Him? (Jeremiah 29:13)

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2 Turn away from anything that takes God’s place.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. COLOSSIANS 3:5

Idolatry is putting anything or anyone above the place of God in our lives. Anything we devote ourselves to, apart from God, can be idolatry. God calls us to be watchful and prayerful against what keeps us away from Him. We must make a decision to turn away from our sinful tendencies and habits, and turn to God. What does God promise us when we confess our sins to Him? (1 John 1:9)

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3 Glorify God with your life.

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Because we are bearers of Christ’s name, we are called to live lives that please Him. Our words and actions must be a testament to a life that is committed to Him and brings glory to His name. It is not enough to say that we are Christians—our lives must also back up our claim. How can you glorify God in *word* and in *deed*?

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