

Sovereign Grace Church
“Living with Jesus” outline
February 4, 2018

Colossians 3: 1-4

Today we will start a short series from Colossians 3 on what it means to be Jesus' disciple. A disciple is a student who learns. Jesus' school is not held in a brick and mortar classroom and he doesn't give tests! At least not the kind you have to write out. His classroom is the world, along with the life you live in it. His subject matter is Himself and His righteousness. He is seeking to have his character instilled in his students such that there wills grow to match his own....that what they would do is what He would do if He were they. However He is not making clones....He is instilling His power for good in uniquely prepared and individually gifted human beings who belong to Him of their own free will for the purpose of redeeming His creation and to bring it back to the blessed state of its original creation...and beyond.

But how do we really go about living with Jesus as His disciple. How do we begin to appropriate His character and to make it our own? We'll see if we can't figure some of this out as we consider part of Paul's testimony in his letter to the ancient church in Collosae.

1. Life with Jesus involves our Identification with Him. v. 1a

- **Identification with His Death**
Rom. 6: 4a, 6a; Gal 2: 20a

- **Identification with His Resurrection**
Rom. 6: 5, 8; I Cor. 15: 2, 22-23

2. Life with Jesus involves an Internal Re-adjustment.1b-2

- We are to “seek...”

- We are to “set our minds upon...”
Rom. 1: 18b; 12: 21; 13:14; Gal 5: 16

The endgame is to do good because we ARE good....not because we are Forced to!
Rom. 7: 19; Rom. 12: 2b

- We are to do these things with reference to “things above.”
3: 12-14; 5, 8
- “Where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God.”
Matt. 28: 18; Phil 2: 15

3. Life with Jesus is largely Hidden. vv. 3-4

- Our true condition of blessedness is presently hidden.
I Cor. 2: 14
- Our true condition of blessedness will be Revealed
Phil. 3: 20-21

Questions for Reflection and Conversation

1. Are you Jesus' disciple? How do you know? What is a disciple? What is He teaching you? What have you learned from Him? How is learning from Jesus related to learning from God's Word? How might one seek to learn from God's Word and NOT be His disciple? How does Jesus as our Teacher relate to our parents, pastor and other folks who are our teachers?
2. Are there any Gnostic dangers in discipleship with Jesus? What might they be? How might they be overcome?
3. What does it mean for you to set your mind on the things above? Is this something that you can do while pursuing your regular life? How does “setting our minds on the things above” change our perspective on our work? Recreation? Relationships with friends and family? Relationships with those we find more difficult?
4. How do “outsiders” perceive your life? Would they describe you as loving? Joyous? Peace-seeking? Patient? Kind? Good? Faithful? Gentle? In control of yourself? Do they desire to have what you have? If not, why not? What does being Christ's disciple have to do with this?