

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing our series on Inspired Letters from Prison. Today's topic from Colossians: LIVING WITH CHRIST.

1) Staying focused on heavenly realities

- a. Colossians 3:1-3 What appeal does the Apostle Paul make to followers of Jesus in Colossae?
- b. Where else in the Scriptures do we find an appeal to keep our eyes focused on heavenly realities? Hebrews 12:1-2
- c. How can we stay focused on heavenly realities when there are so many distractions around us?
- d. What are some ways you have found helpful to set your mind on things above?
- e. What precious promise does the Apostle Paul share with those who keep their eyes fixed on Jesus and the things of heaven? Colossians 3:4

2) Putting to death the old ways of living

- a. Colossians 3:5-9a What are some of the old ways of living that need to be put to death once we become followers of Jesus?
- b. How is it possible to put to death these old ways of living? Colossians 3:9b-11 (see also Ephesians 4:17-24, Romans 6:6-8, Galatians 2:20)
- c. What are some old ways of living God impressed you needed to be put to death when you accepted Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord?

- d. Why is it important to always remember that we allow God to put to death our old ways of living not to be saved but because we are His saved children? Galatians 2:20-21, Ephesians 2:8-10

3) Experiencing new life in Christ

- a. Colossians 3:12-15 What impacts you personally when you hear the Apostle Paul's description of a new life in Christ?
- b. Where do you see your greatest need for growth in your new life in Christ?
- c. Colossians 3:16 Many Christians have found hiding God's Word in their hearts to be a profound blessing. What has been your experience with memorizing the Word of God?
- d. What Scripture songs have been especially meaningful for you?
- e. Why are we blessed when we allow the Word of Christ to dwell in us? Psalm 119:11,105, John 14:26, etc.
- f. Colossians 3:17 What are your thoughts about the comprehensive life principle shared by the Apostle Paul in this verse? (see also 1 Corinthians 10:31)
- g. What is your testimony about experiencing new life in Christ?

