



## OPEN IT

- How has your week been?
- How has God been moving in your life this week? Does anybody have any praise reports, testimonies, or prayer requests?

### OPENING PRAYER

*Pray for one another and any needs present in the circle.*

## SCRIPTURE

**To start discussion ask the questions below:**

- Have you ever had a job that you really enjoyed? What did you like about it?
- Have you ever had a job that you really disliked? What did you dislike about it?

**Read Colossians 3:12-17 ESV**

## EXPLORE IT

### What do you already know?

*Spiritual growth isn't just about learning new things, it's being reminded of what we already know.*

## QUESTION

- What are some things about this text that reminded you of something important about your faith? What do you already know about God that this text reminds you of?

## GO DEEPER

# QUESTIONS

- Have you noticed this dynamic at work in your own life? Is it easier for you to talk about love in the abstract than it is to love people in the real world?
- What are some of the ways it's easier to love others in an abstract way and neglect to love others in the "real world"?

## "CLOTHING" OF OUR FAITH

- **Compassionate hearts** - Concerning ourselves with the welfare of others. Not just those we have no interaction with, but the people God has placed alongside us in our church.
- **Kindness** - Showing genuine kindness for each other as a sign of our faith in Christ. The church should not be mean to each other.
- **Humility** - We ought to have a proper estimation of ourselves. It is unbecoming of the people of God to resist humility. We do not think too highly of ourselves or too lowly of ourselves. Instead, we love and serve one another.
- **Meekness** - The people of God are gentle in Spirit. We are approachable and welcoming to others.
- **Patient and bearing with one another.** - The church exemplifies the long-suffering love of God. We are slow to speak and slow to anger. We allow others to come around to the truth without bullying or coercing them.
- **Forgiving** - The church is a community of those who have been forgiven by God and who forgive one another in return. We do not repay evil for evil, but instead forgive those who have wronged us.
- **Love** - Love is what binds us together. It is the very nature of God manifested in his community of Grace. Love is a posture that says, "Your life matters to God and it matters to me."

## APPLY IT

- Of the characteristics found in Colossians 3:12-14 which comes the most naturally to you? Which is the most unnatural to you?
- What are some of the things God has instituted to help us grow in these key areas?

Read: [Act 2:42 ESV]

Read Colossians 3: 17: 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.

## CLOSING

- This week be intentional about what you "put on". Take time to practice compassion, kindness, patience, and love. This can start right at New Life by taking the time to show kindness to someone you don't normally talk to.
- As you are going about your weekly tasks and obligations refocus your mind to see them as actions done in the name of the Lord Jesus. However small they may seem, they are part of how you are offering your life to God. You can be certain that God sees them and honors them.