



LIVE OUT GOD'S BEST FOR YOUR LIFE

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

What's your picture of "the best life"? In Colossians 3, God recalibrates our perspective on having "the best life" and calls on us to completely trust Him. As Jesus himself stated in John 10:10, He came to give us life, and to give it abundantly. Why then are we still looking elsewhere to find happiness and fulfillment?

SET YOUR MIND ON THINGS ABOVE

Once we give our lives to Jesus, we die to our old life, and are raised to a new life. When we "seek the things that are above," that doesn't mean we let go of our earthly duties and responsibilities. It means that everything that happens, we must view it through the lens of eternity. Be careful what you let into your mind — your thoughts impact your emotions, and your emotions influence your actions. If you are always thinking about the wrong things, you are giving Satan a foothold, and his lies will warp how you view your circumstances.

When Jesus told the story of a very successful man (Luke 12:16-21), He explained that it's foolish to only focus on possessions and earthly things. Instead, when you set your mind on things above, you're thinking about God's kingdom first - and that has eternal value.

As believers, we have died, and our lives are hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3). To say that we have died in Christ does not mean we have physically died. To have died with Christ means:

1. A spiritual reality of our union with Christ (Galatians 2:20)
2. New identity (2 Corinthians 5:17)
3. Judicial freedom (Romans 7:6)
4. The power of sin has been broken (Romans 6:14,18)

Even when you're faithfully following Jesus, there is no guarantee that there's no more temptation. But when faced with temptation, remember that you are a child of God, and not a slave to sin! When Christ comes again, we too will be "revealed with Him in glory" — which means we are destined for glory (Colossians 3:4)! We are "heirs" of God (Romans 8:17-18). God has something so amazing for us, and the early believers knew this. They focused on things above because they knew God's best will always be better than anything else.

PUT OFF THE OLD LIFE

In Colossians 3:5-7, a variety of sins were called out as earthly, and the command is to 'put it to death'. In line with the call to set our mind on things above, we must put these sins away. Colossians 3:8-9 also lists "respectable sins" we take lightly, but are still wrong in the eyes of God, like anger, malice, and slander. There are no levels to this; to a holy God, sin is sin. If we continue to disobey, we are bound to incur the wrath of God. If we truly want God's best for our lives, we need to put off a lifestyle of sin.

PUT ON THE NEW LIFE

We are called to put on our new identity in Christ (Colossians 3:10-11). God is at work in us, we are "chosen, holy and beloved" (v.12). So that means our virtues and character should be aligned with God's will (Galatians 5:22-23). God began a good work in us and will continue to work in and through us in Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6)! And so, we must work out our salvation (Philippians 2:12-13) - this does not mean there are ways to earn our salvation. What this command means is to live out that which is already in us.

A "heart transplant" has been made — because of what Christ did, the things we previously enjoyed are now things that embarrass us and contradict our new nature. We may fall into sin, but we have something in us that will save us. We are to bear with one another, forgive each other, as we are forgiven in Christ (Colossians 3:13-14). On top of these, we put on love. The peace of Christ should rule in our hearts, and we should be growing in these virtues (v.15). The peace of Christ does not just mean harmony with others; it is also personal - having a clear conscience. When we do that which is not pleasing to God, we lose that peace.

At the end of his life, Paul states his confidence that a great future lies ahead of him, including a crown of righteousness (2 Timothy 4:7-8). "The best life" aspires for that - to someday stand before the Lord and hear Him sweetly say to us "well done, good and faithful servant!"

last week's memory verse

Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

COLOSSIANS 3:2-3

discuss this message

Why should you focus your mind on the things above?

How do you keep your mind focused on things above?

What sinful habits must you put off and what Christ-like virtues must you put on to reflect Christ to others around you?

DOWNLOAD THIS CHRONICLE ONLINE!

ccf.org.ph/chronicle/

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ccf.org.ph/4ws/

Who is Jesus to you?

Let's talk about it in the Welcome Center!

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UNDEFEATED
THE VICTORIOUS PRAYER LIFE

JULY 3-6, 2024
WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY

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INFOCUS: A CLEAR LOOK AT JESUS

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

ONSITE: G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12)

LIVESTREAM: ccfnxtgen (ages 4 to 12)

ZOOM: for ages 7-12; message us to sign-up

Reach us via facebook.com/ccfnxtgen

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GLC Graduation is on August 16, 2024!

Open to all GLC Level 1, 2, or 3 finishers including in DGroups & in Self-Paced format!

For GLC in DGroups, please ask your DGroup Leaders to email abigail.ayos@ccf.org.ph for other requirements.

Apply now: bit.ly/GLCGraduation2024

BE EQUIPPED WITH GLC!

GLC LEVEL 2

Book 7: Family Life

ONSITE: June 30, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 3A

ZOOM: July 4, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Book 8: Survey of the Bible

ONSITE: July 14, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 3A

ZOOM: July 25, Thursday, 7:30 PM

CAN'T ATTEND GLC F2F OR ON ZOOM?

Use the Self-Paced Online format or do GLC in your DGroups!

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Learn, grow, or recharge with the community!

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OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS 10-12 YEARS OLD

July 12 to 14

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REGULAR RATE: PHP6,000

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GET YOUR TICKETS

counterflow.ph

A CROSS

YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments – Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your help, I will turn away from my sins. Please come into my life and be my Savior and my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal life. Make me the kind of new person You want me to be. Thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. – 1 John 5:11-13

CCF SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER

SATURDAY NIGHTS

5:00 PM

SUNDAYS

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,
and 3:00 PM

ONLINE LIVESTREAM

ccf.org.ph ccfmain ccfmainTV
9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

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