

MAIN POINT

As Christians, we strip off our old identities and live in light of a new, heavenly perspective.

INTRODUCTION

What are some rules that you had to follow as a child? At the time, did you understand why those rules were in place? Why or why not?

What roles do you find your identity in today (parent, sibling, friend, boss, job title, etc.)?

Christians are called to be in this world but not of it. But what does that mean? Although we exist in this physical space, we are called to set our sights on heavenly things. We are to live set apart, laying aside our old identities and stepping into the new life God has for us. In this new life, God blesses us with boundaries that help us not be distracted by the things of this world.

DISCUSSION

> READ COLOSSIANS 3:1-17.

What parts of life cause you the most anxiety? How might the things that bring the most stress reveal what you prioritize most?

Do you ever feel like God is “anti-fun”? How can you change your perspective to understand that God wants you to have a fruitful and blessed life? How have you experienced this?

What does it mean for there to be freedom in boundaries? Can you provide examples?

Have you ever struggled with feeling chosen or wanted? How does it make you feel to know that God continues to choose you, every day, despite your sin?

When have you been tempted to feel like your failures define you rather than God’s love? What does it mean to be made holy by God?

Read Ephesians 1:4-14. What are some of the spiritual blessings we receive when we choose to follow Jesus?

How does knowing that you are chosen, made holy, and beloved by God change the way you live your life?

In order to embrace your identity in Jesus, what do you need to let go of and leave behind?

APPLICATION

What practical steps do you need to take to “put off” your old life of flesh and “put on” the new life you have been given in Christ?