

Colossians 3:12-17: Put On.

“When we chose to follow God, we become His chosen ones and the elect.”

“A significant measure of our Christian life is found simply in how we treat people and the quality of our relationships with them.”

Galatians 5:22 - *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.*

- i. **Tender mercies** - not giving the offender their due punishment.

Proverbs 11:17 - *The **merciful** man does good for his own soul, but he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.*

Luke 6:36 - *“Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.”*

- ii. **Kindness** - looking out for each other's needs.

Psalms 117:2 - *For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the LORD endures forever.*

Romans 12:10 - *Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;*

- iii. **Humility** - lowliness of mind.

Philippians 2:5-6 – *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.*

1 Peter 5:6 - *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time...*

- iv. **Meekness** - Gentle

Matthew 5:5 - *Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.*

James 3:13 - *Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.*

- v. **Longsuffering** - keeping calm even in distress, allowing others to grow.

Psalms 86:15 - *But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.*

1 Thessalonians 5:14 - *Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be **patient** with all.*

vi. **Bearing with one another** – holding each other up.

Ephesians 4:1-2 - *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,*

Galatians 6:2 - *Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

vii. **Forgiving one another** – clear the wrong.

Matthew 18:21-35 -

God makes the first move towards us in forgiveness, reconciliation and restoration; knowing that we will sin again, sometimes in the exact same way.

John 20:23 - *"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."*

Ephesians 4:32 - *And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*

viii. **Love** – unconditional and sacrificial service to all.

"Love perfectly fulfills what God requires of us in relationships."

John 13:35 - *"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

John 15:13 - *"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."*

ix. **Peace** – harmony among each other...

"Let the peace of Christ *judge, decide, and govern* in your hearts, as the *brabeus*, or judge, does in the Olympic contests.... (Clarke)

John 14:27 - *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid"*

Romans 14:19 - *Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.*

x. **Be Thankful.**

Psalms 100:4 - *Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.*

Psalms 136:1 - *Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.*