



BIBLE LESSON

UNIT 30 • LESSON 3 • NEW LIFE IN JESUS

Dear Parents,

Paul wrote his letter to the Colossians while he was imprisoned in Rome. At this point, Paul had not yet visited the church at Colossae. The church was established by Epaphras, who reported to Paul that the church was facing troubles with false teachers. Paul wanted to put an end to the false teaching and remind the believers of who Jesus really is. Key to this letter is Paul's teaching about how the gospel affects how we live.

As you talk with your kids about Colossians 2-3, focus on some of the main points Paul makes. First, God changes us when we trust in Jesus. The Bible describes us apart from Jesus as "enemies of God" (Rom. 5:10) and "dead" in our sins (Eph. 2:1). Jesus rescued us from sin and death by dying on the cross and rising again. Jesus gives new life to people who trust in Him.

Second, following Jesus means living for Him. Jesus is our reason for living, and He gives us power to live in a way that honors Him. Jesus adopts us into His family and makes us new! We respond to the good news of the gospel by submitting to Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Finally, Jesus calls us to turn away from our sinful ways and live in a way that honors Him. Paul contrasts an earthly way of thinking with a godly way of thinking. The old, sinful way of living (the "old self") is characterized by anger, wrath, hatred, lies, and filthy language. Paul wrote that living for Jesus means putting away the evil, selfish ways of the world and living like Jesus by loving God and loving others.

In Jesus, we have power to live in a new, godly way. This way (the "new self") is marked by compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, and love. Paul says believers should "put on" these things. As we grow in this new way of living, God is making us more like His Son.

God changes us when we trust in Jesus. He adopts us into His family and makes us new! Jesus calls us to turn away from our sinful ways and live in a way that honors Him.

Check this session's Activity Page as well as the Gospel Project for Kids Family App for ways to interact with the Bible content this week.

FAMILY STARTING POINTS

BABIES + TODDLERS

- Paul wrote a letter to a church.
- Paul said to do everything for Jesus.
- When we love Jesus, He helps us live for Him.
- Believers live so we can honor God.
- The church worships God.

PRESCHOOL

- God helps us live like Jesus.
- Why does the church exist? The church exists to glorify God.

KIDS

- Jesus gives new life to people who trust in Him.
- Why does the church exist? The church exists to glorify God by worshiping Him, showing His love, and telling others about Jesus.

UNIT KEY PASSAGE

JOHN 3:16

NEXT WEEK

JESUS FED A CROWD