

# YOU

Bible Study

**Sermon Series: How to Share Christ**  
**To be used with: Live the Message**  
**Sermon Title Possibilities: Represent Christ By Showing**  
**Scripture: Colossians 3:1-3, 12-17**

**Connection with Unit Theme:** To complement the small group study "How to Share Christ," this message emphasizes that representatives of Christ think, feel, desire, and act differently than those in the world. The uniqueness of a saint's life should never be hidden but must be placed on display. Jesus taught that His disciples must let the light shine before men (Matt 5:16).

**Introduction:** One student spent the day studying for the final exam. Another student spent the day playing video games. The first student focused on the material, and the other student did not. It is not surprising that the student who studied could produce the information and apply it to the test. The child that played games was not successful. As followers of Christ, our focus and thought directly affect how we represent Christ in this world. To change things, we should represent our Savior by seeking first, then setting our minds, then showing.

## **1. Represent Christ by Seeking (v. 1)**

Paul phrases his statement in a way that causes the reader to decide his or her standing with Christ. He wants us to determine if we have been risen with Christ, meaning that when God raised Jesus from the dead, every believer was also raised to walk a new life through Him (Roman 6:4). Paul also expressed that Christ's resurrection was for our justification or our being declared righteous in God's sight (v. 4:25). After determining whether one has given their life away to God so that He may move he or she out of the kingdom of darkness into the realm of His dear Son, we are called to represent Christ by seeking things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

As saints of God, our focus should be on heavenly things. As a subject of Christ, His kingdom, rule, and reign ought to be paramount, which is evident by what and who we seek.

## **2. Represent Christ by Setting (v. 2-3)**

God calls us to represent Christ by setting our minds on things above and not on earthly things. Our thoughts should be on God's kingdom. Looking for it to come and for His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. Saints should set their minds on the ways, works, will, and Word of God. Why? Because He has saved our lives. The Lord has renewed our hearts. Believers' works have been created

by Him (Eph 2:10). God orders all saints' steps (Ps 119:133). His ways now direct Christians' attitudes, and His will now shapes our wants.

### 3. Represent Christ by Showing (v.12-17)

When God's people seek and set their minds on things about, it makes it easier to show the world that we have replaced the corruption with bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, and patience. We treat one another differently. We forgive each other because we know that we have been forgiven. As believers, we saturate everything with love so that the world will see that we are His disciples (John 13:35).

As a result, the peace of God rules every believers' heart and are thankful. When the Word of God dwells fully with wisdom, we will strengthen and encourage one another in worship and allow our fixation on Christ and heavenly things to impact everything we do

**Conclusion:** The body of Christ does not have a great witness because we are not seeking where Christ abides and setting our minds on things above. God's kingdom and His will must be our focus so that our lives will then become what we behold.

*Author Bio: Brian M. Carmichael Sr. is married to Stacey of twenty-seven years. They have four grown children (three boys and one girl) and two grandchildren. He is the pastor of Holy Temple Baptist in Memphis, TN. He is an adjunct professor at Baptist Health and Sciences University, Union University (Jackson, TN), and Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. He received his BSOL from Union University (Jackson, TN) and his MDIV and Ph.D. from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.*