

Transformational Love

Today we will: learn to clothe ourselves with love that extends to others by embracing how much God loves us and has separated us for His divine purpose.

Drill it down: as a verb it means dress yourself or drape over a type of covering

synonyms: dress, drape, array, deck, apparel

- 1) According to (Colossians 3:12,13) How are we able to clothe ourselves with compassion and kindness?
 - The first step is to realize you were **chosen by God, separated to be holy and are loved**. If you don't address these areas the ability to love will be limited because you won't have a well to draw from. Let's examine the state of your bucket:
 - a) Do you feel or even accept that God has chosen you for a great purpose?
Explain.
 - b) Do you feel holy (righteous)? The state of living right before God or pleased with direction your life is going in God sight? Explain
 - c) Can you embrace His love for you?
Explain.
 - If you were able to answer at least one though minimal, you have something to give others.

The goal is to maximize and fill your bucket completely but it's going to take a belief in yourself and how much God loves and cherishes you. In just a moment I am going to help you fill your bucket if you are willing to change your NO's into YES's and apply the tools I am going to teach you.

- 2) According to (Colossians 3:12,13) When we are able to accept God's love for us what does it give us the ability to do?
 - Our acceptance of God's love provides the ability to have **compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness towards others**.
 - We become our worst enemy when the true sources of love is neglected, and we search in areas of our lives that only produce emptiness. Many relationships over the years develop as transactional relationships which means we will only stay and work on the relationship if the other individual can provide what we need. Just like a bottle, once the contents are consumed it's discarded in the trash.
 - God has intended for us to develop meaningful and deep relationships, but He is giving us clear picture in His Word on how it can be done.

3) According to (Colossians 3:13,) How are we able to forgive?

- The Lord first forgave us which intern gives us the ability to forgive others. It has been said that unforgiveness is like trying to poison the individual that you are bitter towards but are consuming the pill yourself. Without you realizing it, you are creating a slow death when God wants to release you from it.

4) According to Colossians 3:14, what binds all these virtues together?

- Very simple, love binds all the virtues together.
- Love is like a tree that bares fruit which represents the virtues. If love is in us then what others see externally is patience, kindness and forgiveness as prime examples.

Application:

- The act of clothing means it is a daily process in which you must be intentional about wearing it. (If you look good then you feel good)
- Love can only be given if it's received and God choose us to be the recipients. (Col. 3:12)
- We are bought at a great price and should value being called children of God. (Gal. 2:20) Always remember your identity and value.
- We are called to be holy because God is holy. (1Peter 1:15,16)

→ Strive for peace with all men and holiness because if we neglect it we deny ourselves seeing the Lord. (Hebrew 12:14)

→ When you embrace God's love for yourself you unlock the doors to loving others.

→ Your mirror self reflects what you show others (1 John 4:19) This is true between us and the Lord.

→ God has demonstrated His love first by giving up His son for us. (Romans 5:8)

→ Every day you wake up, be reminded how much God loves you.

Pray:

Lord help me be compassionate, humble and kind. I pray during my times of frustration I quickly put my gaze on you and clothe myself with your love.