

COLOSSIANS



FOLLOWING JESUS

PRACTICE: BIBLE STUDY

APPLICATION

A crucial aspect of Bible Study is the application of the study to our lives. The Bible is not just doctrines to be believed but also doctrines and history and stories to be lived. This week we explore how we can apply the Bible when we read and study it so that we might be formed into the image of Jesus, “who is our life” (Colossians 3:4).

Pray: Before you begin your study, pause for a conversation with God. Thank him for being present with you by his Spirit. Ask him to speak specifically and show you how to apply his word to your life today.

Study: Applying the Bible to our Lives

Take a moment to read and watch these resources on Biblical Application and record what you learn.

Read:

► **How to Apply Biblical Truth to our Daily Lives**

[MENLO.CHURCH/DAILYLIVES](https://menlo.church/dailylives)

Watch:

► **InterVarsity Bible Study: Application**

[MENLO.CHURCH/INTERVARSITY](https://menlo.church/intervarsity)



A silly but helpful acronym for some application questions is **SPACEPETS**.

What questions would you add to this list (can you come up with a better acronym)?

1. Is there a **SIN** to confess? Has the light of Scripture illuminated an area of your life that needs confession and forgiveness?
2. Is there a **PROMISE** to claim? There are more than 7,000 promises in God's Word. Does the passage you've read contain a universal promise or a specific promise to a particular person or group? If it is universal, ask yourself whether you've met the conditions of the promise.
3. Is there an **ATTITUDE** to change? Is there something you need to think about differently? Do you struggle with pride, apathy, covetousness, or anger? Confess and commit to change.
4. Is there a **COMMAND** to obey? Obedience is better than sacrifice (1 Samuel 15:22).
5. Is there an **EXAMPLE** to follow? Are there positive examples to follow or negative examples to avoid? What aspects of the individual lives recorded in Scripture should you imitate? What should you avoid?
6. Is there a **PRAYER** to pray? There are many recorded prayers in the Bible. Praying God's Word back to Him is powerful!
7. Is there an **ERROR** to avoid? It's wise to learn from experience, and it's even wiser to learn from the experience of others! What can you learn from the errors in the passage you've studied?
8. Is there a **TRUTH** to believe? Often, we'll read something in Scripture that we can't do anything about. We simply must believe what it says about God the Father, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the past, the future, Heaven, Hell, or other topics in the Bible. When you come across a truth to believe, spend some time praising God for His wisdom and plan.
9. Is there **SOMETHING** for which to praise God? You can always find something in a passage for which you can be grateful to God.

Living the Scripture: Read and Mediate upon Colossians 3:1-17 and make just one application from it to your life this week.

¹ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. **Colossians 3:1-17**

Worship: Pause to worship God as he has revealed himself to you in Colossians 3:1-17.