

SERMON-BASED STUDY: DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Colossians 3:12-21, ESV – ¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

¹⁸Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. ²⁰Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. ²¹Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

Notes:

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- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we were reminded that the better family begins with the members of the family understanding their position in Christ. What is our position in Christ? Why is this important within the context of our family?

2 How does love bind everything else together?

3 Looking at the list of characteristics in verse 12, which is easiest for you to put on? Which is the most difficult? Explain.

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Romans 12:9-13, ESV** – ⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

4 In Romans 12:9, Paul exhorts believers to “let love be genuine.” What does it mean for love to be genuine?

5 What does Paul mean by “hold fast to what is good”?

6 Looking at verses 11-13, how do you see this description of love reflected in the life of Jesus?

7 Which of the aspects of this description of love are uncomfortable to you? Why or why not?

8 How can a family benefit from this kind of love? How can this kind of family affect others around them?

TAKING IT HOME

Ultimately, our love for our family members and other people needs to be a reflection of Jesus' example of love. What are the places in your life you would like to improve in loving your family? Share with your group or accountability partner what God is showing you. Pray for one another as you strive to "dress for success" in your family relationships.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Ephesians 4:2-3, 32, 5:2, 22-33, 6:1-4

Philippians 2:1

1 Thessalonians 5:8

1 John 3:11-24