

The Word of God Living in Us It makes a Difference

^{BGT} **Colossians 3:16** Ὁ λόγος τοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐνοικεῖτω ἐν ὑμῖν πλουσίως, ἐν πάσῃ σοφίᾳ διδάσκοντες καὶ νοουθετοῦντες ἑαυτοὺς, ψαλμοῖς ὕμνοις ᾠδαῖς πνευματικαῖς ἐν [τῇ] χάριτι ἄδοντες ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ὑμῶν τῷ θεῷ·

^{NKJ} **Colossians 3:16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Review

If then you were raised with Christ,

- Be Seeking the Above Things (Col 3:1)
- Be Thinking the Above Things (Col 3:2)
- Put to Death Sinful Motivations (Col 3:5-7)
- Put Off Sinful Actions (Col 3:8-10)
- Put On Spiritual Clothing (3:12-13)

Seven Articles of Spiritual Clothing that a Believer is Commanded to Put On

1. Put on “Tender Mercies” by Choosing to See and Feel the Needs of Others.
2. Put on “Kindness” by Choosing to Benefit Others as You Seek to Meet Their Needs.
3. Put on “Humility” by Choosing to Consider Yourself to Be a Servant to Others.
4. Put on “Meekness” by Choosing to Approach Others with Gentleness and Consideration.
5. Put on “Longsuffering” by Choosing to give People Time and Grace to Grow.
6. Put on “Bearing with One Another” by Choosing to Put Up with the Faults of Others.
7. Put on “Forgiving One Another” by Choosing to Release Others from Their Sin Debts.

Three Essential Components to Christian Maturity

1. Be Clothed with the Love of God.
 2. Be Umpired by the Peace of Christ.
 3. Be Immersed in Thankfulness to God.
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I.. The word of God should live in us.

The main command: **Let Dwell!**

Dwell - ἐνοικέω – live in, dwell in, reside in.

2 Corinthians 6:16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will **dwell** in them And walk among *them*. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead **dwells** in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

2 Timothy 1:14 That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who **dwells** in us.

2 Timothy 1:5 when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which **dwelt** first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you –

1) Richly

Richly – πλουσίως, plousiōs - richly, in full measure, in an abundant way.

1 Timothy 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us **richly** all things to enjoy.

Titus 3:4-6 ⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us **abundantly** through Jesus Christ our Savior,

^{NKJ} **2 Peter 1:11** for so an entrance will be supplied to you **abundantly** into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2) In all wisdom.

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!

Colossians 1:9 ⁹ For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;
Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time.
James 3:17 - 18 ¹⁷ But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. ¹⁸ Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

II. The word of God should grow us.

One goal of Christians as they mature is that they would minister to one another.

A. We should be teaching one another.

- The word of God should dictate what we think.
- The word of God should affect our attitudes.

B. We should be admonishing one another.

Admonishing – **νουθετέω**, *noutheteō* - instruct, teach; warn.

This word occurs 7 times in Scripture. Three of them describe Paul's ministry as he warned others (Acts 20:31; 1 Corinthians 4:14; Colossians 1:28), The other four instances (this passage included) deal with us being able to or commanded to admonish each other.

^{NKJ} **Romans 15:14** Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

^{NKJ} **1 Thessalonians 5:14** Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

^{NKJ} **2 Thessalonians 3:15** Yet do not count *him* as an enemy, but admonish *him* as a brother.

C. We should be singing in our hearts.

1. With grace.

Grace - **χάρις**, *charis* - grace, kindness, mercy, goodwill; a special manifestation of the divine presence, activity, power or glory; a favor, expression of kindness, gift, blessing; thanks, gratitude; graciousness .

2. To the Lord.

Here is the object of our gratitude. Are our hearts singing to the Lord? Is He the focus of our thoughts and energies?

Romans 14:6-8 He who observes the day, observes *it* to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe *it*. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. ⁸ For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Colossians 3:23-24 ²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

How?

1) in Psalms.

^{NKJ} **1 Corinthians 14:26** How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

2) in hymns.

Ephesians 5:18-19 ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

3) in Spiritual songs.

Since this is "singing in our hearts," this refers to an inward attitude of joy and thankfulness.

Paul commands that the word of Christ ought to dwell in each of us. It is to dwell in us in full measure, affecting our thoughts, attitudes and actions. As the word of Christ dwells in us there ought to be a response in our lives that we would teach and admonish one another, and have a joyful "singing" attitude in our hearts.