



"Set" Beyond Me

Discussion Guide

May 6, 2018

Colossians 3:1-4

Questions for Study

**Before discussing these questions, read through Colossians 3:1-4 as a group.

1. Who is Paul writing to in his letter to the Colossians—Christians or non-Christians? How does this impact the way we read this passage?
2. What's the difference between justification and sanctification?
3. The Bible teaches that when we believe the Gospel, we're justified (declared righteous) before we're sanctified (the continual process of being made more holy and righteous). What's the danger in thinking about these backwards?
4. How is setting our "hearts on things above" (v. 1) tied to the process of being sanctified?
5. What does it mean to set our hearts and minds on "things above" instead of on "earthly things" (v. 2)?
6. Consider how one Pastor summarized these verses: "We set our sights on eternity not to escape reality, but to keep reality in perspective." What's the difference between these two approaches?
7. For you personally, what are the earthly things that you find yourself fixating on? What's a healthy way to look at those things with an eternal perspective?
8. What are some practical ways (practices, disciplines, etc.) that we can continually focus on God's bigger picture, rather than on limited earthly things?
9. Verse 3 says that our "real life is hidden in Christ."
 - Read **Romans 8:31-39**. How does this passage relate to verse 3 and in what ways does it encourage you?
 - How does this change the way we approach unexpected challenges and disappointment in life?
 - How does this change the way we face tragedy, suffering, etc.?
10. This week's 365 reading included Matthew 13, read verse 1-9 & 18-23. How can we cultivate good soil (our heart) and protect the seed (God's truth)?
11. What's one personal take-away you've learned from Colossians 3:1-4? How can you apply that take-away to your life?