

MIND:

Think & Live Like Jesus

COLOSSIANS 3:1–17 (NKJV)

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Introduction: Truth That Transforms

Paul moves from **doctrine to demonstration**. After declaring who we are in Christ, he challenges believers to **live like it**. Truth that is not practiced becomes a contradiction.

Some can argue theology passionately but live inconsistently. Scripture confronts this tension directly:

TITUS 1:16 (NLT)

Such people claim they know God, but they deny him by the way they live. They are detestable and disobedient, worthless for doing anything good.

Introduction: Truth That Transforms

This is not a call to perfection, but it is a call to **alignment**. If Christ has changed our position, **He must also change our thinking**.

To live unleashed, we must break free from worldly thinking and embrace a **Kingdom mindset**, a mind shaped, renewed, and governed by Christ.

1. Set Your Mind on Things Above

COLOSSIANS 3:2 (NKJV)

Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

BIBLICAL INSIGHT

- The phrase “*set your mind*” speaks of **continual, intentional focus**. Paul is not calling believers to escape the world, but to **interpret life through heaven’s values**.
- Earthly thinking is temporary, reactive, and self-centered.
- Heavenly thinking is eternal, purposeful, and Christ-centered.

1. Set Your Mind on Things Above

KINGDOM TRUTH

- An **unleashed mind is anchored upward**, not dragged downward.
- What controls your thinking will shape your living.

APPLICATION

- What dominates your thoughts: fear or faith?
- Are your decisions driven by culture **OR** by Christ?

PROVERBS 23:7 (NKJV)

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.

“Eat and drink!” he says to you,

But his heart is not with you.

2. You Are Hidden in Christ

COLOSSIANS 3:3 – 4 (NKJV)

³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

⁴ When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

BIBLICAL INSIGHT

Paul reminds believers of a profound spiritual reality:

- **You died.** — The old identity no longer defines you.
- **You are hidden.** — Your life is secure, covered, and protected in Christ.
- **Christ is your life** — not success, status, or survival.
- This speaks of **security, identity, and destiny.**

2. You Are Hidden in Christ

GALATIANS 2:20 (NKJV)

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

KINGDOM TRUTH

- You don't live for approval; you live from **assurance**.
- Your life may be misunderstood now, but **glory is coming**.

APPLICATION

- Stop letting your past name you!
- Stop letting people label you!
- Start living from who Christ says you are!
- When Christ appears, what God has been hiding will be revealed.

3. Be Unleashed in Christ

COLOSSIANS 3:5 – 7 (NKJV)

⁵ Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

⁷ in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

Paul now addresses **what must be put to death.**

“Put to death” is decisive language. It means:

- No negotiation
- No justification
- No gradual compromise
- The listed sins are not just behaviors; they are **misdirected desires.**
- Covetousness is called **idolatry** because it replaces God with self.

3. Be Unleashed in Christ

To “put to death” means sin gets no vote, no voice, and no veto.

KINGDOM TRUTH

- You cannot be unleashed while still **entangled**.
- Freedom requires confrontation.

2 TIMOTHY 2:4 (NKJV)

No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

INSIGHT:

Entanglement divides loyalty.

A believer cannot fully serve Christ while remaining tied to what distracts and enslaves.

3. Be Unleashed in Christ

APPLICATION

- Identify what belongs to the old life.
- Confess it, confront it, crucify it.
- Remember: You no longer live there.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 (NKJV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

4. Be Unleashed through the Word of God

COLOSSIANS 3:16 – 17 (NKJV)

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.

¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

4. Be Unleashed Through the Word of God

BIBLICAL INSIGHT

Paul does not say *visit* the Word; he says let it **dwell richly**.

The Word:

- Shapes our wisdom
- Governs our worship
- Guides our relationships
- Directs our conduct

When the Word lives in you, **Christ rules through you.**

KINGDOM TRUTH

- The Word does not just inform the mind; it **transforms the heart**.
- Gratitude becomes the posture of an unleashed believer.

APPLICATION

- Is the Word shaping your reactions?
- Is worship flowing from your life?
- Are your words and works done in Jesus' name?
- A Word-filled life becomes a God-glorifying life.

Closing Reflections: The Unleashed Mind

AN UNLEASHED MIND:

- Thinks heaven-first
- Lives secure in Christ
- Rejects the old life
- Is saturated with the Word

This is not behavior modification; it is **spiritual transformation**.

- When your mind is renewed, your life follows.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does “setting your mind on things above” look like in everyday life?
2. How does being “hidden in Christ” change how you face challenges?
3. What must be “put to death” for you to walk fully unleashed?
4. How can the Word of Christ dwell more richly in your daily life?