



GOT TRUTH?

The Truth About Life

Colossians 3:1-17

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Focus Forward (verses 1-4)

1. What does Paul mean by being “raised with Christ”?
2. In verses 1 to 4 how does Paul encourage us to “focus forward”? Put another way... what are we to “seek” and “set our minds on”? What does it mean to do this?
3. What can each of these mean to you personally?
4. Can what Paul writes in these verses apply to those who are not “raised with Christ”? Why or why not?
5. According to verses 1 to 4, what (and on Whom) are we to focus on?

Examples of Focusing Backward (verses 5-11)

6. What does it mean to “focus backward”? How might one fall into the trap of focusing backwards?
7. Looking at Paul’s examples of backward focusing, are there any items on the list that surprise you because they are there? Any items that you think should have been there?
8. Why do you think Paul focuses on these items?
9. Are there any items that especially grab your attention? Why? Are there any items that you find to be especially relevant to your life?
10. How might you know if you are focusing backwards? What might that be like for you?

Examples of Focusing Forward (verses 12-17)

11. In these verses, what is the point of Paul’s list of examples?
12. How does Paul describe our relationship with Jesus? How does Paul describe actions and attitudes that accompany someone focused on Jesus and who we are in Him?
13. In verses 15 to 17, what results might we look forward to as we focus forward?
14. What role does thanksgiving have in helping us to focus forward?
15. Looking at Paul’s examples of forward focusing, are there any items that are especially meaningful to you?
16. Ultimately each of us has a choice of where we will choose to focus. We make that choice each moment of our lives. Sometimes we have made that choice and may not even realize it until we are well down the path of actions and attitudes that come as a result of that choice. How might what Paul writes help you to identify which choice you are making and to keep making the choice to focus forward?
17. What one truth, principle, and/or realization from these verses could you seek to incorporate in your life this coming week? What steps could you take to implement that truth, principle, and/or realization into your life?