

## *Discussion Questions for Life Groups*

Read Col. 3:5-17, and then review the main points of the sermon outline.

1. **(Kill earthy sins)** Read Col. 3:5-6. National and local media (TV, movies, print, internet) are so highly sexualized that finding suitable entertainment is becoming more difficult all the time. Why is constant exposure to such sexualized material harmful? How would you characterize the battle we face in putting to death sexual immorality, impurity and lust?

2. **(Get rid of angry sins)** Read Col. 3:8. The ungodly expression of anger is usually learned very early in life, and is standing in the way of Christian development. Eph. 4:26 (“Be angry and do not sin.”) makes it plain that not all anger is sin, but much of it is. What measures might we take to keep anger within righteous bounds while eliminating “rage, malice, slander and filthy language” (Col. 3:8)? How does eliminating such sins promote unity?

3. **(Put on Christlike clothing - unity)** Read Col. 3:9-11. What these verses make clear is that we are to seek unity in spite of real and continuing differences. The “My Response” Section of the *Experiencing Christ Study Guide*, pages 75-76 says, “Write down steps you can take to stop boasting in distinctives (race, sex, background, education, social status, income) to free yourself up to boast in Christ.” Please share how you responded to that question.

4. **(Put on Christlike clothing – love in many forms)** Read Col. 3:12-14. Since “love” is so culturally confusing today, seeing it as a combination of compassion, kindness, and forgiveness makes for a powerful mix! What examples have you seen of these virtues, and how can we encourage greater expression of them in our church, Life Group and families? What are some examples of “bear with each other”?

5. **(Follow Christ’s pattern - peace)** Read Col. 3:15. In a context speaking of unity, this word “peace” probably refers to the well-being that comes from living in unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ. How can we promote peace in our church, in our families and in our Life Groups?

6. **(Follow Christ’s pattern – the Word)** Read Col. 3:16. It is all too easy to leave the Word of Christ at the church door when you leave. What steps have you taken in the last year to make the Word of God a greater part of your life and thinking? What difference has that made in your life? What has resulted from your taking part in the *Experiencing Christ* studies?

7. **(Follow Christ’s pattern – the Name)** Read Col. 3:17. This simple test of our words and actions would make an outstanding reminder to hang on the wall at home or to put

on one's desk at work. Discuss how this verse could be used as a test for our actions on all occasions.

## *Enrichment Study for Life Groups*

Ephesians 4:22-24            Here is more on the old man and the new man.  
Ephesians 4:25-26            Be angry for the same reasons God is angry.  
Luke 10:5                      A request for God's blessing — "peace."  
Hebrews 4:12                 The powerful Word of God!

## *Heads-Up for Next Sunday*

**Serving Christ                      Col. 3:18-4:1**  
**(Bruce Miller on October 29, 2006)**

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