

21 DAYS OF PRAYER

Colossians 3:1-9

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, **set your hearts on things above**, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²**Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.** ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵**Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature:** sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸But now **you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these:** anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices.

Big Idea

When was a time that you felt distant from the Lord? Perhaps the present is this time. How did you or do you feel about this perceived distance? God used or desires to use something or someone to draw you closer to Him.

Today, we will focus on how to draw closer and feel closer to God not only in our prayer time, but also our lives. There are some positive things that we can do to draw closer to God. There are also some negative things that we need to avoid. As you read Colossians 3:1-9, look for ways you can close any gap between you and God.

Discussion Questions

- What impacted you most about today's video teaching?
- When you think of the quote, "Begin with the end in mind.", how does this affect your thoughts about the legacy you want to leave with those that are closest to you?
- What difference do you think it would make in your life if you focused more on heavenly and eternal things?
- What difference would it make if you placed God first in all the areas of your life – Your marriage, parenting, decisions, job performance, leadership, money, and influence?
- When we know how good it feels to be close to God, why do you think we allow the sins mentioned in verses 5-9 to distance us from God?
- How does the story of the Prodigal Son coming home give you hope?

Prayer Focus

Spend some time in prayer asking God to help you maintain a proper Heavenly perspective. Also open up your mind and heart and allow the Holy Spirit to show you any ways that might not be in sync with his will for your life. Confess them as sin and receive His restoration and love! Spend some time worshiping the Heavenly Father!

Next Step

As you begin each day of your life, it helps to begin with the end in mind, how you desire to finish your life's journey. In doing so, hold to things that make an eternal significance, letting go of things that hold you back.