



# COLOSSIANS

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THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST

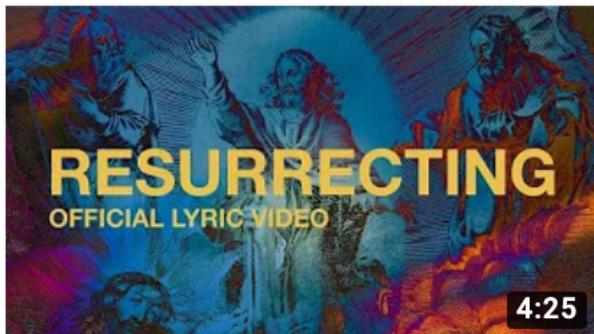
# focus.

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Spend the next few minutes helping your group focus their attention on God.

**sing |** together

**Resurrecting** by Elevation Worship



**read |** together

"I appeal to you, Lord, God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob and Israel, You the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Infinitely merciful as You are, it is Your will that we should learn to know You. You made heaven and earth, You rule supreme over all that is. You are the true, the only God; there is no other god above You."

**St Irenaeus of Lyons, 130–202 AD**

# read.

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Read the passage for today together as a group. Then ask each individual to reread the passage and mark anything God illuminates.

## **Colossians 3:5–17**

[5] Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. [6] On account of these the wrath of God is coming. [7] In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. [8] But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. [9] Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices [10] and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. [11] Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

[12] Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, [13] bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. [14] And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. [15] And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. [16] Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. [17] And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (ESV)

# discuss.

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Lead your group through the following discussion questions. Help them thoughtfully reflect and respond to God's direction.

|1| There is much to our passage today.

Did God illuminate anything as we read?

|2| On Sunday, Kevin defined sin this way: sin is treasuring and trusting my ways or someone else's ways over God and His ways. Paul has clear intentions for followers of Christ in regard to sin: put it to death. These are harsh words. Do you always treat sin with the same regard that Paul does here in verse five? What does the call to put sin to death communicate about its seriousness?

|3| Kevin gave us three strategies for killing sin.

1 | Seek Christ 2 | We immerse ourselves in God's word 3 | Don't go at it alone

Are there any strategies that you might add to this list that have helped you in your battle with sin?

|3| Our passage references a "taking off" the old self and "putting on" the new.

What does Paul mean when he writes these words?

What clues does our passage give us as to how to accomplish the "taking off" and "putting on" God so desires?

|4| Take a moment to bow your heads. Ask God if you are susceptible to any of the earthly things listed by Paul in our passage. Go back and read them again if need be. (verses 5-9) If the Holy Spirit convicts you of sin then spend a moment in personal repentance before God. If led by God, confess your struggle with your group or a trusted friend and ask for help in putting to death this sin in your life.

|5| Now do the same with those attributes God is working to help us put on in our lives. Reread verses 12-17 and simply ask God to illuminate any attributes He wants you to partner with Him in putting on. Ask for His help and guidance and if bold enough, pray aloud with your group communicating your prayer to God.

# pray.

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Direct your attention now to listening prayer. Follow the prompts below as you guide your group to hear and obey God.

**| 3 |** Talk to God about your relationship with Him.

Thank Him for His presence with us today. Thank Him for the conviction to take off the old and put on the new in your life. Ask Him to guide you this week as you seek to follow Him closely.