**Building Core Strength**

**Fulfilling Your Calling in Christ**

Colossians 3:12-17

**Bold =** Commands from Paul

*Italics* **=** God’s Calling of His People in Christ

12 So, as those who have been *chosen of God, holy and beloved*, **put on** a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14 (SUMMARY) Beyond all these things **put on**love, which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 **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 richly dwell** within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 (SUMMARY) Whatever you do in word or deed, **doall in** *the name of the Lord Jesus*, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Theme: A church that understands its calling takes intentional steps to be like Christ in every way.

1) We must clothe ourselves with the righteousness of Christ.

Colossians 3:12 - So, as those who have been *chosen of God, holy and beloved*, **put on** a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14 Beyond all these things **put on**love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

The “clothing” of Christ’s righteousness

1. Heart of compassion
2. Kindness
3. Humility
4. Gentleness
5. Patience
6. Bearing with one another
7. Forgiving one another
8. LOVE (summary of all)

2) We must let the peace of Christ be decisive in circumstances and relationships.

Colossians 3:15 - **Let the peace of Christ rule** in your hearts, to which indeed *you were called* in one body; and **be thankful**.

3) We must let the Word of Christ saturate our inner being.

Colossians 3:16 - **Let the word of Christ richly dwell** within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

With the result that the Word overflows from our lips in:

1. Wise edification (teaching and admonishing) of one another
2. Grateful celebration (singing) with one another