

FOR WONDERS IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

HOW TO FOLLOW JESUS (PART V)

COLOSSIANS 3:15-17

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: In this series (How to Follow Jesus) you are not given religious rules of do's and don'ts. Instead you are reminded of the basis of your faith. If you practice these principles, the Holy Spirit will do wonders in your relationship with Him and with others.

LET HIS PEACE prevail in all your relationships; not your peace, but Christ's peace. "Only souls at peace with God can be at peace with man." Everett F. Harrison, Colossians: Christ All-Sufficient, p. 90. Christ's call to you is to extend the peace you enjoy with Him as a bond of fellowship in the body of Christ. To avoid conflicts, the peace of Christ must be your umpire to check and keep oneness in the body of Christ. His peace is the believer's thermostat that enables you to be controlled by the Spirit and give thanks in all situations. (Colossians 3:15, fn 3:14, 15, fn 3:15, John 14:27, fn 14:27, Romans 5:1, fn 5:1, Ephesians 4:3, fn 4:3) *How could you let Christ's peace always be your thermostat?*

LET HIS WORD dwell in you richly. The Holy Spirit uses the Word to speak to you and to guide you. If the Word dwells in you abundantly, you cannot help but teach, warn, and sing to Jesus with a grateful heart. (Colossians 3:16, fn 3:16, II Timothy 3:16, 17, fn 3:17, I Thessalonians 2:13, Ephesians 5:18, 19, I Corinthians 14:15, fn 14:15) *How could each of these exhortations help you to be full of the Holy Spirit? What part does each play?*

DO EVERYTHING IN CHRIST'S NAME. Jesus gives you opportunities to embrace all of His life in all you do. The ability to do everything in His name is lived by faith in and through Jesus. When this is experienced, thanksgiving is proof. (Colossians 3:17, fn 3:17, I Corinthians 10:31, fn 10:31, Colossians 3:23, Ephesians 5:20) *How could remembering to do everything in Christ's name help you in your work?*

According to this preparation how may we pray for you to be strengthened in your personal relationship with Jesus? How else may we pray for you?

