

# FIRST

## HOW TO FOLLOW JESUS (PART I)

### COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

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

**BACKGROUND:** Since you have been raised with Christ and have His life, follow Jesus! God raised Jesus from the dead and gave Him all authority in heaven and on earth. Jesus, with equal honor and equal dignity, is at God's right hand and His reign is above all. (**Read Ephesians 1:18-23.**)

**SEEK JESUS.** Seek means to strive after or try to gain. Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, p.701. Therefore, pursue Jesus for more of His presence, more of His life, and more of His love. He has promised if you draw close to Him, He will draw close to you! (**Colossians 3:1, James 4:8, Philippians 3:7-14, fn 3:9, 10, fn 3:12-14, Psalms 25:14, fn 25:14**) *How could a quiet time of 15-30 minutes one-on-one with Jesus help you in seeking Him?*

**SET YOUR MIND** on Jesus. This means "to be mindful of, to be devoted to" Him. Zodhiates, p.1454. If you are devoted to Jesus, you will be loyal to Him and set aside time for Him. To set your mind is to master your time. You cannot set your mind if you are captivated and enthralled with earthly things or things of this earthly life. (**Colossians 3:2, fn 3:1, 2, Philippians 3:19-21, fn 3:20, Romans 8:5-8, fn 8:5, 6, Matthew 6:24, 28-33, fn 6:33**) *How does setting your mind on Jesus enable you to be involved in a small group?*

**BE READY.** Your old life is gone. Your new life is hidden and secure in Christ. As you seek Christ and set your mind on Him, He transforms you to be like Him. When Christ is revealed, the goal of your seeking Him and setting your mind on Him will be revealed—your life like Christ. (**Colossians 3:3, 4, fn 3:2, 3, fn 3:3, fn 3:4, I Peter 1:13, fn 1:13, I Thessalonians 4:13-18, fn 4:15-18[2<sup>nd</sup>], I Corinthians 15:50-53, fn 15:51, 52, I John 3:1-3, fn 3:2, 3**) *How could Jesus get you ready to meet Him?*

*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?*

