

**The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – April 8 - 13**  
***Doing Life Together – Doing Life Together***

**MONDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Colossians 3:12-17

**OBSERVATION:** After reminding us that this passage is paralleling the 11 verses which precede it, Paul begins by describing those whom he is addressing as "God's chosen ones" and "holy and loved." The significance of this is great. He is not speaking to those without Jesus or to those whose desire should be anything less than complete surrender to Christ. They, the church at Colossae, and us, the believing reader today have been the object of God's great love as evidenced by Christ's work of salvation.

**TUESDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Colossians 3:12

**OBSERVATION:** Notice, however, that building on the idea of putting off the old man and putting on the new man from verses nine and 10, Paul says to "put on" these things. Certainly this requires intention, such as putting on clothing requires a person's intention. Even further, amidst a context where preparations for church services must happen every week, for the church technical servant, this requires devotion—a true sense that time with God and in His Word must both come before and be the motivation and clothing for all of the technical, pastoral, and creative elements to our jobs.

**WEDNESDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Colossians 3:13

**OBSERVATION:** Verse 13 describes what this will actually look like in real life. The idea of accepting one another is not that we should not keep one another accountable and bear one another's burdens, but rather that we should love each other in such a way that reflects the love of Christ to the world outside. Specifically, this is tested when conflict arises.

**THURSDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Colossians 3:14

**OBSERVATION:** Paul says that we must, as the primary evidence that we are united in Christ, put on love. The number of passages in the New Testament exhorting, encouraging—even commanding us to love one another as part of the Church—is such that it is surely a familiar theme to any believer. However, it is especially helpful here within the "clothing that we put on" context of this passage, as love is expressed as something to cover all that we are and do.

**FRIDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Colossians 3:15

**OBSERVATION:** In 15, we are to let the peace of the Messiah, which Paul again relates to our having been called to unity in the church, rule over the condition of our hearts. We get the individual sense from what has come before and the corporate sense in what is spelled out after. As the Church, the Gospel is to richly characterize what we do and how we do it, and certainly this applies to our corporate worship services.

**SATURDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Colossians 3:16-17

**OBSERVATION:** The things for which thanks are to be given, are "all things"; and the time when, always, as in Ephesians 5:20. The person to whom they are to be given is God the Father, the Father of our spirits, and of our mercies, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of us in him; and the person by whom they are to be given, is Christ, which is just and proper, since all mercies come from, and through him; nor is there any other way of bringing and offering the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving to God; nor are they, nor can they be acceptable to God by, and through any other, but by him alone.