

# I Want You to Want Me

## Colossians 3:1-11

*“So if you have been raised with the Messiah, seek what is above, where the Messiah is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on what is above, not on what is on the earth.” - Col 3:1-2*

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**Main Point:** If we want to be the type of people God desires as His followers our lives must be renovated to replace the desires of this world with the desires of God.

**Introduction:** Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

*What's your favorite DIY or home renovation show?*

*What's so appealing about these shows and what is your favorite part about it?*

*Have you witnessed a life being renovated and restored by Christ? How did that effect you?*

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The people of Colossae had strayed in their path from the Lord. They began following pagan teachings seeking protection from false gods and paying lip service to Creator God without any thought of true life change. Paul took this opportunity to encourage these believers to press on to maturity in Christ by continuing their battle against sin, pursuing holiness in Christ, and learning to live as distinctively Christian households.

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1) To get back to God and allow renovation to occur we must **GET THE RIGHT CLEANING MATERIALS.** Read together in **Colossians 3:1-4.**

False teachers in Colossae may have claimed to hold heavenly secrets, but what does Paul point out about Christ in v.1? What does **Psalm 110:1** imply about Christ's position and therefore our position if we are “raised with Christ?”

If we are to seek “the things that are above,” what is Paul referring to? This contrasts with “things on earth.” What should we be taking our focus off of?

What does **Colossians 1:10** say will be the result of focusing on things above?

Paul reminds the believers that their lives are “hidden with Christ in God.” What does it mean to you to be hidden with Christ?

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2) Renovating our lives and seeking God means **SWEEPING OUT THE JUNK**. Read together in **Colossians 3:5-9**.

Paul call the Colossians to make a decisive break with sinful tendencies they have carried with them into the Christian life. What kind of “junk” does Paul indicate we need to be rid of?

Christians have to take severe measures to conquer sin. How is the message in v.5 similar to those found in **Romans 6:11** and **Romans 8:13**? Compare and discuss.

Jesus shares with us some steps to defeating sin in our lives. Read **Matthew 26:41** and **Matthew 5:29-30**. What are these verses saying about sweeping sin out?

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3) True life change and renovation cannot occur unless you **INVITE JESUS INTO YOUR LIFE**. Read together **Colossians 3:10-11**.

Jesus isn't going to break down the door to get into your life. What does he say in **Revelation 3:20**?

What kind of imagery does Paul use to describe what happens when Jesus enters our life? (Hint: Old v. New) How does this relate to a very familiar parable Jesus told in **Luke 15:22-24**?

Paul says something similar to the **Ephesians** in chapter **4:24**. Read these verses and discuss what they have in common. What is the importance of the phrase “being renewed” for someone seeking to live as Christ?

What is the tendency for believers when we see people who may not be in the same place of renewal as us? How should our thoughts and attitudes be shaped by v.11?

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**Pray:**

*As you close your group time pray that God would point out the sin in your life that needs to get cleaned out. Ask him to renew your heart and mind today and every day to seek Him above all else. Invite Christ to be your passion and that passion would replace all others in your life.*

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**Connect:**

*Pastor Erik said “Every person has the potential to be a follower of Jesus.” Who have you short changed in life because you didn't see that potential in them? Who can you minister to this week that you've neglected maybe because they are different from you?*