

# Theology of Fun – Putting Fun in Its Place

By Willie Felderman

## Main Idea

Life is at its best when **Christ is on the throne**, fun and God's good gifts are enjoyed at the **Thanksgiving table**, and **sin is in the trash**.

## Colossians 3

Key Verses: Colossians 3:1-17

Verses 1-4: *"Set your minds on things above."* Christ should be the ultimate ruler.

Verses 5-7: Sinful behaviors like immorality and greed belong in the trash.

Verses 15-17:

Verse 15: *"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... and be thankful."*

Verse 16: *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly... with thankfulness in your hearts to God."*

Verse 17: *"Whatever you do... do it all... giving thanks to God."*

## Examples of Misplacement

Sin on the Throne: When sin rules, life is focused on self-serving pleasures. Gratitude becomes shallow and directed only at temporary gains.

Ditch 1: Fun on the Throne:

Sign: Fun dictates actions and leads to sin when unmet.

Insight: Fun as a king disappoints. *"Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love"* (Jonah 2:8).

Ditch 2: Fun in the Trash:

Sign: Fun is undervalued or seen as trivial.

Challenge: Recognize fun as a God-given gift that reflects His goodness.

## Addressing Counselors

Older Counselors (Fun in the Trash): Engage in activities and model joy. *"Don't show up to the water game in jeans—or with jeans on your heart."*

Younger Counselors (Fun on the Throne): Balance fun with integrity and relationships. *"Enjoy fun, but remember, only Christ belongs on the throne."*

## **Practical Steps for Teaching Fun**

Training: Teach that fun is to be enjoyed, not idolized or dismissed.

Reminders:

Before Activities: Be unashamedly fun and hyped.

Morning Meetings: Reinforce the importance of engaging in fun with thankfulness to God.

## **Connecting Fun to Worship**

Transition: Use moments of gratitude to lead into worship. “The joy and fun we shared today is a gift of God’s kindness—let’s thank Him for it.”

## **Discussion Questions**

“Where have you seen fun or sin misplaced? What was the result?”

“How can you maintain Christ on the throne while enjoying fun?”

“What practical steps can you take to model this to campers?”

## **Bonus Content: Loving the Least of These**

- Key Scripture: Matthew 25:40 – “Whatever you did for one of the least of these... you did for me.”
- Main Idea: Serving and delighting in children reflects God’s heart. Embrace their joy as part of God’s kingdom vision (Zechariah 8:3-5).

“Celebrate their laughter and play, remembering that in serving children, you serve Christ.”