

PUTTING OFF THE OLD NATURE
Colossians 3:1-11

Please read the verses in at least two versions, noting any questions you have. Ask yourself as you read: what does this passage tell me about God's heart, His personal love for me, and how I can show His heart to others.

1. Col. 3:1 Seek the things that are above, writes Paul. What "things" do you think he is directing them to be centered on, even as we live here on earth with our earthly problems?
2. "You" are dead, he says in verse 2. Who or what is "you"?
3. "Your life is hid with Christ in God" - what picture or idea does that call to mind? Can you think of other metaphors used to tell us about being hidden in God? (e.g. Exo. 33:22)
4. Col. 3:5-8 says a very emphatic "Put to death" what is earthly in you, and then lists some words. It will be instructive to look these words up and consider their synonyms. We will learn in the lesson the true horror of what Paul is referring to...
5. what are some different ways can we "lie" to one another? Why is lying so evil in God's sight? Who is called "the father of lies"?
6. Why is God telling us that in the Church we should not think in terms of categories?