

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

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Since you have been raised up with Christ (Colossians 3:1)

Keep seeking the things above (Colossians 3:1)

Set your mind on the things above (Colossians 3:2)

Consider your bodies dead to various categories of sin
(Colossians 3:5-9)

Put on the new self – who you are in Christ (Colossians 3:10)

Put on the clothing of the Holy Spirit (Colossians 3:12-14)

Let the Peace of Christ rule in your hearts (Colossians 3:15)

Let the Word of Christ Dwell in you (Colossians 3:16)

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
(Colossians 3:17)

**Colossians 3:17 and All, whatever things If
you do, in word or deed
(Do) all in the name of the Lord Jesus.**

Don't miss the repetition of the all-important all-inclusive "all." This emphasizes the totality of your life, for this one Greek word includes the idea of oneness, a totality of the whole. God desires for every part of your life to be part of the whole that we are in Christ, so that everything we say, everything we do, be to the glory of Jesus Christ. Any part that is

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

not in congruence with who you are in Christ. You see people, God desires for our lives to be in complete harmony. And any part, small or large that is not in harmony causes discomfort in your soul or in your life. The great conductor Arturo Toscanini demanded perfection. I think it was while conducting a Verdi piece that he told one of the musicians that he played the wrong note. The musician did not argue, just handed the maestro his music. Toscanini challenged what was printed and lo it turned out that the printer had indeed printed a wrong note. Toscanini heard one note that was not in the perfection of what Verdi had written. He knew the piece that well. OK, people, God is infinitely superior to Toscanini, and God has composed perfect life for every born again believer. And when we are off, not in harmony, it sticks out, it causes pain in our lives: Stress, Anxiety, Depression (SAD). But when we are filled by the Holy Spirit, walking in the Holy Spirit, following the Holy Spirit, keeping in step with the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:25) our souls are at peace and there is joy in our hearts.

This is why the Psalmist writes in

Psalms 119:9 how can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your Word.

That is by keeping ‘*his way*’ according to the Word of God. Which, of course, means we have to know the Word of God in order to keep it in our daily lives. Then in

Psalms 119:11 Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against you.

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

He has laid the treasure of the Word of God in his soul. This is in keeping with

**Col 3:16 let the Word of Christ richly dwell
within you**

These two verses, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament are so parallel. In Psalm 119:11, he has treasured in his heart the Word of God, while in Colossians we are to allow the Word of Christ to richly dwell in our hearts. And how do we allow the Word of Christ to richly dwell in us? First, by considering the Word to be a treasure. When available, we all would go after a true treasure. Well, we should consider learning the Word of God as putting a treasure in our brains, in our souls. And then by the power of the Holy Spirit allow Him by faith to set the Word in our souls. And this, on a daily basis throughout our lives. That is, that I will not miss anything you would have me say or think or do. Therefore, in verse 12 he cries out to God **teach me!** In the Church Age God has given to us the completed canon of Scripture. Then, He has graciously supplied (Galatians 3:5) every believer with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Then, He has graciously given to certain males the gift of pastor-teacher. It is up to each male with this gift to dedicate his life to the study and teaching of the treasure of the Word of God. And then is it up to every believer to find a pastor-teacher who studies and teaches (distributes the treasure of the Word of God) and after finding him, discipline yourself to continually and faithfully sit under that teacher, allowing the Holy Spirit to cause the Word of Christ to richly dwell in you.

**Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17**

And then in

**Psalms 119:59 I considered my ways And
turned my feet to Your testimonies.**

Again, this requires that you first know His testimonies, that is His Word, so that you can then make the volitional decision to turn your feet to the way He would have you go.

**Colossians 3:17 and all whatever things if you
do, in word or deed do all in the name of the
Lord Jesus.**

The preposition translated **in** as **in the name of the Lord Jesus**, this preposition can be translated *in* or *with regard to the name of the Lord Jesus*.

Again, we cannot forsake that word *all*. The first time this is used in our verse it is in the singular. The second time it is in the plural. In the singular it means every separate word or deed in our lives. In the plural it refers to the wholeness of our lives. You see people, our lives are made up of the multitude of single words and actions. And we should desire that they each add up to the harmony of the whole. Let all the words that come out of your mouth be in harmony with your actions.

John, in his epistles to the church, addresses this consistency.

**1 John 3:17 But whoever has the world's
goods, and sees his brother in need and**

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?

**1 John 3:18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.
(What does doing something 'in truth' mean?)**

John 14:16 "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper parakletos, that He may be with you forever;

John 14:17 *that is the Spirit of truth,*

Whatever we think, say, or do in the power and leading of the Holy Spirit will be in the truth of God's character and God's Righteousness and God's plan. So, if you say something, and do something in the power of the Holy Spirit, you are in harmony with God and you are doing all in the name of Jesus Christ. The entire chapter 3 of 1 John concerns what we are studying in Colossians 3:17. This may all sound so wonderful but putting this verse into practice is the real test and challenge. We will see this in the human relationship of marriage in Colossians 3:18 and following.

Colossians 3:17 ...Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus there is no repetition of the verb 'to do'

Colossians 3:17 and all whatever things if you do, in word or deed (*do*) all in the name of the

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

Lord Jesus (The verb is not repeated but the completeness 'all' is repeated)

In the name of the Lord Jesus This phrase is so rich and deep and vast in its meaning, no one concept can contain all that is involved.

To understand this all-important prepositional phrase, let's take a look at a few others.

Colossians 1:8 and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit. This, of course, means in the power and leading of the Holy Spirit by faith.

Another place of doing something 'in'

1 Cor. 16:14 Let all that you do be done in love This of course means that whatever we say or do should be said or done in Spiritual Love.

But let's look at some other pertinent passages:

Acts 4:18 And when they (religious and political leaders of Jerusalem) **had summoned them,** (Peter and John) **they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.**

This means

(1) not to speak or teach concerning this Jesus;

(2) not to speak or teach under His authority, that is as one of His followers;

(3) in no way are they to speak or teach using the name Jesus.

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

Acts 2:38 Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This means

- (1) to be baptized under the direction of Jesus Christ.
- (2) to be identified as a follower of Jesus Christ. Baptism was an overt means of making public declaration of allegiance to Jesus Christ.
- (3) It could be translated **be baptized as a believer in Jesus Christ.**
- (4) It was on the foundation of the person and work of Jesus Christ that they will be forgiven sins.

To understand the concept in our passage (Colossians 3:17) everything we say or do is to be done in the name of Jesus Christ. Let’s look at what Jesus Christ says:

John 10:25 Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father’s name, these testify of Me.

This is exactly what we have in our passage (reject me – reject /one who sent me---reject Jesus Christ, reject the one who sent Him)

1. First, by proclaiming that His works were done in His Father’s name, Jesus Christ is declaring an intimate relationship with God the Father.

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

2. He was doing these things by the authority of God the Father.
3. He is declaring recognition of God the Father.
4. He is declaring that these are the revelation of the will of God the Father.
5. That He is not only the revelation of God but the representative of God on Earth.
6. That God the Father had sent Him to do these very things.
7. It is to draw attention not to Himself but to God the Father.
8. Therefore, He glorifies God the Father by accomplishing the work that God the Father had given Him to do in His name.

And people, when we do things **in the name of the Lord Jesus** we are declaring

First, an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ by faith in Jesus Christ and by the Baptism of the Holy Spirit being put into Jesus Christ and by growing in the knowledge of Jesus Christ by the teaching ministry of His Spirit.

Then, you are declaring that you recognize Jesus Christ in every aspect of your life. Again, this is only accomplished by faith in the Holy Spirit.

Third: That we are the representative of Jesus Christ on Earth. We are to love just as He loves and speak as He spoke and act as He would act. There used to be a big movement called WWJD (What Would Jesus Do). This was so pitiful, for few of these people

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

knew how to do as Jesus Christ would do. We do not know what Jesus Christ would do in every circumstance, but God the Holy Spirit knows the thoughts of God (1 Corinthians chapter 2) and therefore only the Holy Spirit knows how and what Jesus Christ would say and do in every circumstance. So, we must know how to be filled by the Holy Spirit; led of the Holy Spirit in everything we say and do. And that, of course, is by grace through faith.

Fourth: Do you pray in Jesus Name? This means that your prayer is for the benefit of Jesus Christ.

Fifth: We are declaring that this is the will of Jesus Christ. You are declaring that you know the will of Jesus Christ; and you are in harmony with His Will. You know what He would have you say and what He would have you do. And the only way we can know the will of Jesus Christ is to know the Word of Jesus Christ. This is why in Colossians 3:16 we have **let the Word of Christ dwell in you**, why this is before our phrase. And for this to happen you have to know how to be filled by the Holy Spirit by grace through faith and that you sit and learn from a man gifted of God, who studies and teaches the Word of Christ. And you must do this all through your life. What we say is the will of Jesus Christ. What I do is the will of Jesus Christ because I know what the will of Christ is for me to say and do today! Question: Is what comes out of your mouth the will of Jesus Christ? Is what you do, the will of Jesus Christ? If not, then do not claim that you are doing it in His name. Change what you are doing to indeed reveal the will of Jesus Christ.

**Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17**

Sixth: When you say or do something in the name of Jesus Christ you are declaring that you are sent of Jesus Christ to Earth to say and do all you say and all you do. John 17.

Seventh: Doing or saying in the name of Jesus Christ means that what we do or say is by the authority of Jesus Christ given to us. That is, we are under His authority to say and live as we live. Have you subjected yourselves to the authority of Jesus Christ?

Eighth: Saying and doing all in His name is recognizing Jesus Christ as Lord of your life. There is no such thing as ‘Lordship Salvation.’ It takes time in the Holy Spirit and in the Word of God, it takes maturity for Christ to become your Lord. Placing your entire life, your single life, your marriage under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Ninth: When you declare that what you say and do is in the name of Jesus Christ you are glorifying Jesus Christ in your life.

What is important here is what we are not saying. When you say and do in the name of Jesus Christ, this means that you are not saying or doing it under the recognition or for the service or satisfaction of anything or anyone else.

- (1) This means that you are not saying or doing something in and for yourself. Let’s be honest, most of what we say or do is for ourselves. It is to advance ourselves. It is to draw attention to ourselves. Do you sing, even hymns for Christ or for yourself? Do you give for Christ or for yourself?

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

- (2) You are not saying or doing something to glorify or draw attention to and promote some race.
- (3) You are not saying or doing something to glorify or promote some sex. So many people today perform and speak to advance their sex.
- (4) You are not saying or doing to promote mankind, humanity. We live at a time in history where people sacrifice, say and do to promote globalization, or the welfare of all humanity. We are to sacrifice our national identity for the sake of mankind. We are to stop living on petroleum for the sake of humanity. This is the foundation of Communism and Socialism: for the benefit of humanity. The only problem is that both Communism and Socialism lowers nearly all members of society except for the elect few who know what is best for everyone else.
- (5) Nazism and Russian Communism commanded that everyone sacrifice and even die for Germany or for Russia. We may die for America in war, but this is our duty before Christ not for America.

One of the most profound passages on living in Christ is found in the first Epistle of John.

1 John 2:3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, (we have to know Him to speak and do in His name; how do we know if we know Him in truth?) if we keep His commandments.

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

(Like the ones we are studying in Colossians chapter 3.)

1 John 2:4 The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; (It is amazing how many believers lie to themselves and try to deceive others, but oh, people, God knows the truth)

1 John 2:5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. (This is a *perfect passive indicative*; where the *passive voice* is used to show that His love has been matured in the believer by his living in the power of the Holy Spirit.) **By this we know that we are in Him:** (By what? By loving as He loved.)

1 John 2:6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked. (Ok, how did Jesus Christ walk? How did Jesus Christ live? By what manner? By living in, trusting the Holy Spirit to guide and empower. Therefore, we ought to walk as He walked by faith in the Holy Spirit.)

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

1 John 2:7 Beloved, (remember Colossians 3:12 that every believer is chosen, holy and beloved) **I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard.**

What is the ‘old commandment that you have heard?’ In

John 13:34 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

John 13:35 “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Now back to 1 John chapter 2:

1 John 2:8 On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining. (Jesus Christ has come into the world.)

1 John 2:9 The one who says he is in the Light (he is in Christ) and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now.

Let the Name of Christ motivate everything you do in life
Colossians 3:17

1 John 2:10 The one who loves his brother (Spiritual Love) abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

1 John 2:11 But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

Colossians 3:17 and All, whatever things If you do, in word or deed (Do) all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Make this your daily prayer.

Make this the guide in everything you do in life.

And getting ready for the next paragraph in Colossians chapter 3 which deals with marriage: A wife should do all she does to honor her husband, the way she dresses, talks, acts etc. And the husband should do all he does to honor his wife, the way he clothes himself, talks, handles money etc.

This is the way we honor Christ!