

## Sermon Notes

### **The Hard Work of Being Like Our Father**

Colossians 3:1-10, 12-15

#### I. Introduction to the Colossian church.

- A. Review
- B. A prison epistle
- C. The region
- D. Today's focus – Colossians 3:1-10, and especially 3:12-15

#### II. Exposition.

##### A. Verse 12

1. Formerly used exclusively of Israel. Now applied to all people who have been called of the kingdom.

a. Gen. 12:3; James 1:1; Romans 8:30

2. Qualities of the believer.

a. “Compassion” – very deep feeling.

1. Phil. 1:8; Gen. 43:30; Gen. 45:1-4

2. I Sam. 8:1; 20:4; 20:17

b. “Kindness” – God is kind – Rom. 2:4; 11:22 and we are to be like him – Luke 6:35.

c. “Humility” – Maintaining a lower estimate of ourselves.

1. Philippians 2:3.

d. “Gentleness” – not weakness. Willing to suffer rather than cause suffering. (Num. 12:3; Ex. 2:12-14).

1. Aristotle.

e. “Patience” – a reflection of God's patience toward us – “Longsuffering.”

1. Think of Jacob.

2. Think of Hosea.

##### B. Verse 13

1. Forgiveness is the heart of the gospel.

a. Paul's remarks echo Jesus' thinking in the Lord's Prayer.

##### C. Verse 14

1. Love heads the Fruits of the Spirit.

##### D. Verse 15

1. The umpire within your heart.

#### III. Points for Reflection

A. “Put” instead of Soot.

B. Wear the garments in our families.

C. Wear the garments as the church.

D. The Gospel has enabled our labor.