The Life of Virtue
Colossians 3:12-4:1

- 3:12-17 – **Virtue in the life and in the church**
- 3:18-21 – **Virtue in the home and family**
- 3:22-4:1 – **Virtue in the workplace**

1. Being “chosen” highlights the fact that God has ____________ picked us out from among the ____________ to be **His very own. Divine ____________** is a theme not only in Paul, but also in the **whole Bible**.

2. **Ephesians 1:3-6** - just as He chose us in Him ____________ the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In _________ 5 He **predestined us** to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of _______ will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His ____________, which He freely bestowed on us in the **Beloved**. NASB

3. “Compassion” is that ____________ and heartfelt sympathy for others who suffer along with a ____________ to alleviate that suffering. “Kindness” is that ____________ affection of heart that moves us to do good things for others.

4. “Humility” is that ____________ estimation of oneself that sees others as _______ important. “Gentleness” is that amiable and ____________ treatment of others which is careful to soothe rather than injure. “Patience” is that longsuffering ability to ____________ with others weaknesses without complaint.

5. Here Paul holds out **forbearance** and ________________ as important virtues for the _____ self to put on. And notice the scope of this forgiveness, “__________ has a complaint against ____________; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.” Dear Christian, you must forgive!

6. Here of course that crowning __________ of “love,” which Paul likens to the _______ that holds us all together in the church saying, that love is “the perfect _______ of unity.”

7. Indeed it is a profound set of virtues that are to ________________ our hearts as Christians, so far in these short verses, “compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, forgiveness, love, __________, peace, and ______________.”
8. Indeed the Christian Life is way of life that is nothing like this _________ world of sinful vices that ______ the human race apart, but rather a life of beautiful _________ and love that constantly seeks the benefit of others and always the _________ of God in giving it to us.

9. Here, “in the name of the Lord Jesus,” means, _________ with all that Christ is. And also the scope of this is _________ aspect of our lives, Paul writes, “_________ you do in word or in deed, do all in the name of our Lord Jesus.”

10. He now turns to explain how the ______ self is to fulfill its role in the home and family. Because you are God’s “chosen, ________, and beloved saints,” this must also powerfully _________ your home into a place where God’s character and virtue thrives.

11. Neither party is to be _________ or domineering but rather, the wife is to be _________ or in submission to the husband’s loving guidance, and the husband is to _________ in a loving and affectionate way.

12. The wife must forgo the temptation to ______ the husband’s life, and the husband must ensure that his love for his wife always puts ____ interests first.

13. Ephesians 5:22-25 - 22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the ______ of the wife, as ______ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in _____________. 25 Husbands, love your wives, ______ as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; NASB

14. See here what ______ looks like in the role that children fulfill in the family. It looks like _____________ to the parent’s guidance and this is “in all things.”

15. Surely the ______ calling of Christian virtue is seen here to be other worldly, that even to a slave master we are to render obedience with “___________ of heart.” This is because we “_______ the Lord” and desire to please God, not merely men.

16. Therefore let us work _______, with integrity and _________ render to our employers the obedience they require, as if we were serving the _____ Himself.