

WARM-UP

WORD

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. **COLOSSIANS 3:1-4**

Christ died on the cross as payment for our sins. This means that Christ won the victory over sin when He was raised from the dead. Because He was victorious over sin, we are no longer slaves to it, and this gives us a whole new status in Christ. In this lesson, we will look at three characteristics of our new status in Christ.

1 In Christ, we have a new life.

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
COLOSSIANS 3:1

Our sinful nature died with Christ on the cross. Therefore, since we were raised from the dead with Christ, we have been given a new life free from sin. What do you think it means to *seek the things that are above*? Since we now have a new life in Christ, why should we *seek the things that are above*, rather than the things we see on earth?

2 In Christ, we are secure.

For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **COLOSSIANS 3:3**

In Psalm 27:5, David talks about God hiding him in the day of trouble. That is what Paul means when he says our lives are hidden with Christ in God. Our sinful natures died with Christ on the cross. It is like we are beginning life again, with a clean slate. Now that we are reconciled with God, we can be secure in Him. In what area have you experienced hiding yourself in God and finding your security in Him? What happened?

3 In Christ, we have hope.

When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. **COLOSSIANS 3:4**

Our new status in Christ means that we can live our daily lives free from sin, and be secure in Him. Now that our sins have been paid for on the cross, we will no longer receive its penalty, which is death. We have hope that we will be raised in glory when Christ appears again. According to this verse, what can we look forward to? How is this different from the way we usually live?
