

## CHARACTER TRAITS OF THE FAMILY OF GOD, PART 2 Colossians 3:14-17

There are mysteries of grace and love in every page of the Bible: it is a thriving soul that finds the Book of God growing more and more precious.

R.C. Chapman

### 1. Colossians 3:14 - **Girded by the Love of Christ**

- The priority of love

- The perfection of love

### 2. Colossians 3:15 - **Governed by the Peace of Christ**

- The place of peace

- The practice of peace

### 3. Colossians 3:16-17 - **Guided by the Word of Christ**

- Remaining in the word

- Rejoicing in the word

- Responding to the Word

## Small Group Homework

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### I. Getting to Know You

1. This is our last small group for the winter session. Share something that happened in the group this winter that you especially appreciated.

### II. Into the Bible

2. Ephesians 5 is another parallel passage to Colossians 3. In Ephesians 5:18-20, he makes the same connection between singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs leading us to giving thanks. Why do you think he makes this emphasis?

3. In Philippians 4:4-7, rejoicing and thanks lead us to peace. What are the results of that peace, according to this passage and the next few verses?

### **III. Application**

4. Share with the group what you have to do to forgive people who have wronged you. Is it easier or harder to forgive people who have done something to hurt someone you love, rather than if the hurt was directed to you?

5. Romans 12:9-21 is another passage that talks about practical steps to show love. How can doing these practical things help us have peace with one another in the body of Christ?

### **IV. For Families**

6. Talk with your children about specific things that you can do in your home to bring peace there. This means more than just not fighting with each other. It means showing love and actively building each other up.