

Receiving the Word of Christ

Scripture Reading: Col. 3:16-17

- I. Concerning our living in union with Christ in Colossians, Paul tells us to let the word of Christ dwell in us richly—Col. 3:16**
- A. The word of Christ is the word spoken by Christ—John 6:63.
 - B. We need to be filled with this word meaning that we should allow the word of Christ to dwell in us, to inhabit us, and to make home in us—15:7.
 - 1. For the word of Christ to dwell in us richly means that it has adequate room in us to permeate and saturate our whole being.
 - 2. It is crucial for us to let the word of Christ enter into us, dwell in us, prevail in us, and replace our concepts, opinions, and philosophies—Psa. 119:130; cf. 21:23; 22:5.
 - 3. We need to pray, “Lord Jesus, I am willing to let go of my concepts. I want Your word to have ground in me.”
 - C. We need to pray-read the Word, receiving the Word of God by means of all prayer and petition—Eph. 6:17-18.
 - D. We need to sing-read the Word, letting the word of Christ dwell in us richly in all wisdom by singing—Col. 3:16.
 - E. When the element of Christ has been infused into us by our singing and psalming the Word, we live Christ spontaneously and automatically.
 - F. As we allow the word of Christ to inhabit us, we do all things in the name of the Lord—3:17.
 - 1. The word of Christ is actually the embodiment of Christ—John 1:14.
 - 2. When the Word as the embodiment of Christ is mingled with our inner being, inwardly we are one with Christ—1 Cor. 6:17.
 - 3. Because the Lord has saturated us, permeated us, and mingled Himself with us, making us one with Him, we can do all things in His name.
 - G. In Colossians the emphasis is that we should live in union with Christ by having His rich word dwelling in us that the highest ethical relationships, issuing not from our natural life but from Christ as our life, may be realized for His expression—Col. 3:18—4:6.
- II. As the word of Christ dwells in us richly, we shall have the proper daily living; this living is in union with Christ and is the practical new man.**

Focus: For Christ to be expressed in our living, we must allow His word to dwell in us richly by giving the Word the adequate room in our being, and by pray-reading and singing the Word.