

WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 2023



Above ALL

PREPARE



BEFORE YOU BEGIN



TALK TOGETHER

AS FAST AS YOU CAN, TELL ME ABOUT SOMETHING ABOVE YOU.

Great work!
When we

think of things above us, we often think of physical things — things we can see, touch, smell or taste.

When the missionary Paul wrote a letter to the Colossian church, he told believers to set their minds on things above. But he wasn't talking about the sky, a roof or tree branches. **Help me find Colossians 3:1-4 and 8-14, and let's learn more about what Paul says Christians should think about.**



TALK TOGETHER

Family conversations with God's Word.



MORE TO EXPLORE

Discover how this conversation fits into God's Big Story.



THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

Post it on the fridge. Use it all week.



COLORING PAGE

Keep little hands busy before, during and after your family conversation.



IF THEN YOU HAVE BEEN RAISED WITH CHRIST, SEEK THE THINGS THAT ARE ABOVE, WHERE CHRIST IS, SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD. SET YOUR MINDS ON THINGS THAT ARE ABOVE, NOT ON THINGS THAT ARE ON EARTH. FOR YOU HAVE DIED, AND YOUR LIFE IS HIDDEN WITH CHRIST IN GOD. WHEN CHRIST WHO IS YOUR LIFE APPEARS, THEN YOU ALSO WILL APPEAR WITH HIM IN GLORY.

BUT NOW YOU MUST PUT THEM ALL AWAY: ANGER, WRATH, MALICE, SLANDER, AND OBSCENE TALK FROM YOUR MOUTH. DO NOT LIE TO ONE ANOTHER, SEEING THAT YOU HAVE PUT OFF THE OLD SELF WITH ITS PRACTICES AND HAVE PUT ON THE NEW SELF, WHICH IS BEING RENEWED IN KNOWLEDGE AFTER THE IMAGE OF ITS CREATOR. HERE THERE IS NOT GREEK AND JEW, CIRCUMCISED AND UNCIRCUMCISED, BARBARIAN, SCYTHIAN, SLAVE, FREE; BUT CHRIST IS ALL, AND IN ALL.

PUT ON THEN, AS GOD'S CHOSEN ONES, HOLY AND BELOVED, COMPASSIONATE HEARTS, KINDNESS, HUMILITY, MEEKNESS, AND PATIENCE, BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER AND, IF ONE HAS A COMPLAINT AGAINST ANOTHER, FORGIVING EACH OTHER; AS THE LORD HAS FORGIVEN YOU, SO YOU ALSO MUST FORGIVE. AND ABOVE ALL THESE PUT ON LOVE, WHICH BINDS EVERYTHING TOGETHER IN PERFECT HARMONY.

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4 AND 8-14

Can you help me name one of the things Paul says a believer should have in their life? There were several: compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, forgiveness and love.

Paul explains that sinful actions like outbursts of anger and bad words should no longer be part of a believer's life. Instead, Christians should focus on things above and live a life like Jesus. Christians should spread actions like kindness and forgiveness to those around them!

So the next time you look above your head and see the sturdy roof of your home or a blue sky stretching far and wide, let it remind you to think about the things above — God and the things that come from Him.



GOD'S BIG STORY

CREATION



EVERYTHING
GOD CREATED
WAS GOOD.

FALL



ADAM & EVE SINNED,
AND SIN PASSED TO
ALL PEOPLE, EVEN
YOU AND ME.



THOUGH ALL OF
US ARE SINNERS,
CHRIST DIED
FOR US.

RESTORATION



JESUS WILL
COME AGAIN.

FIND IT IN THE BIBLE: * COLOSSIANS *

This week's story comes from the book of Colossians. Colossians is an epistle, or letter. This letter lists both Paul and Timothy as its authors. It was written to Christians in Colossae, and it stresses Christ's power over all things.

OT-NT CONNECTION

In Colossians 3:3, Paul says a Christian's life is hidden (or kept safe) with Christ. The words he uses here are found in the Old Testament. Look up **Psalm 27:5**.

- What does David say the Lord will do for him in this verse?
- How do you feel knowing a Christian's eternity is secured in Christ?

SINCE I'M SAVED, WHY DO I STILL STRUGGLE WITH SIN?

While sin no longer controls us as believers (Romans 6:13-14), we still live in a fallen world where sin tempts us. We will mess up now and then until we reach heaven. Thankfully, as Christians, we can ask God to set our minds on things above. Jesus will give us the power to say no to sin!

JOURNAL

Grab a pillow, blanket, pen and your journal and find a quiet spot for reflection. Think about what you've learned about setting your mind on things above. Are there any areas in your life where you are struggling with this? Write a prayer in your journal asking God to help you focus on Jesus and eternal things.

DOES SETTING MY MIND ON THINGS ABOVE MEAN I SHOULD NOT ENJOY ANYTHING ON EARTH?

Following Jesus means you should obey your parents! (Ephesians 6:1) The Bible tells us to respect authority. (Romans 13) However, if someone asks you to do something you know God says is wrong, choose to respectfully follow Jesus instead. God's ways are above all.

READ



Take a moment to read the entire third chapter of Colossians.

Make a list of the things God's chosen ones (Christians) should put on (have). These are found in verses 12-14.

★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 2023

♥ MEMORIZE

**SET YOUR MIND
ON THINGS
THAT ARE
ABOVE, NOT ON
THINGS THAT
ARE ON EARTH.**

(COLOSSIANS 3:2)

Q: AS A CHRISTIAN,
WHAT SHOULD I
THINK ABOUT?

A: THINGS THAT ARE
ABOVE.

ACT



Paul tells the Colossians to set their minds on things above. Colossians 3 lists many virtues of Christ. Read Colossians 3:12-14 with your child. Ask them how they can serve someone they know using one of those behaviors.

SHARE

Tell your kids about a time you chose to focus on things above. What happened when you made that decision?

WATCH



Help your child learn their verse by watching this week's Memory Melody video!

PRAY



DEAR LORD, THANK YOU FOR CHANGING THE LIVES OF BELIEVERS. THANK YOU FOR MAKING THEM NEW. PLEASE HELP ME TO SET MY MIND ON THINGS ABOVE THAT BRING YOU GLORY. AMEN.

FIND



This week's verse is found in the book of Colossians. Help your child find the book of Colossians. Is this book in the Old or New Testament? How many chapters are there?

CLEAN



Paul says Christians should set their minds on things above and put on the new self. Invite your young child to help you wash a load of laundry. Show them how the dirty clothes look before being washed. Then, show them what they look like when they come out of the dryer. When we ask Jesus to be our Savior, we are no longer marked by sin; we are new again and marked by Jesus!

CRAFT



Gather scissors, glue, paper or poster board, and help your child create a collage of photos that remind them of the things Paul says Christians should do in Colossians 3:12-14! For example, compassionate hearts could be a picture of someone helping a person in need; love could be a drawing of a cross.

SING

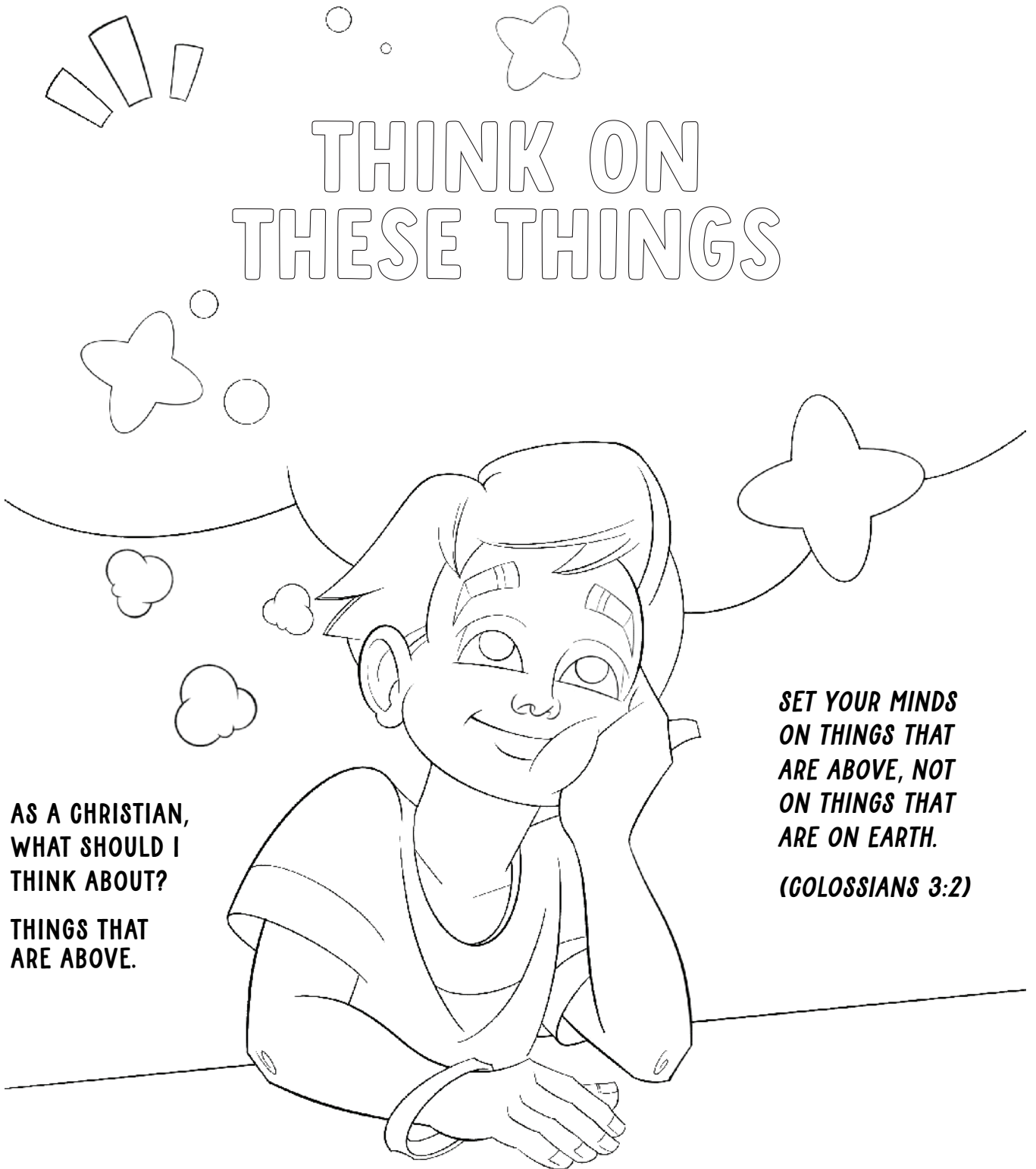


Listen to this playlist and worship Jesus Christ, Who is above all!

**SCAN HERE TO LISTEN
WHEREVER YOU ARE!**



THINK ON THESE THINGS



**AS A CHRISTIAN,
WHAT SHOULD I
THINK ABOUT?**

**THINGS THAT
ARE ABOVE.**

***SET YOUR MINDS
ON THINGS THAT
ARE ABOVE, NOT
ON THINGS THAT
ARE ON EARTH.***

(COLOSSIANS 3:2)

NAME: _____