

## **NEW: Walking in New Clothes**

Colossians 3:9-17

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." -Colossians 3:12 NIV

When I was growing up, I wanted to be a fashion designer. I would spend hours coming up with different designs for how I wanted my clothes to look. I would draw different patterns on them and sometimes add accessories. It was important to me that my clothes looked good and fashionable.

When we are walking through life there is something always on us and near us- our clothes! Our clothes are the first thing people see. Often, we worry about how our clothes look because it is something everyone sees. Clothes also need to be practical so that we can do everyday tasks like chores, but also so that we can do fun things like playing games or going to the beach.

Colossians 3:12 states that we also have spiritual clothes. We are called to put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Just like our ordinary clothes, these should be what people notice about us as Christians. But do people always see these qualities in us? We try to be patient, kind, and gentle, but we are imperfect people who are not always good at wearing what Jesus has called us to wear.

Jesus, however, is the perfect example of what this should look like. His miracles show his compassion for people. He shows kindness by befriending the people that no one else would. He is the Son of God, but he humbles himself to take on human likeness. We see his gentleness in the way he interacts with those he heals. He is patient with his disciples when they do not understand his teachings.

While we cannot perfectly wear our spiritual clothes, we have the Holy Spirit working in our hearts to put on these traits. Because of this, other people will notice the difference between our clothes and the clothes the world wears. With God's help, we can point others to Christ, and He can give them new clothes to help more people.

Let's Pray:

Dear Lord, thank you for sending Jesus to be the perfect example of what it looks like to wear spiritual clothes. Help us to share your love with others by clothing ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Thank you for giving us the ability to do this by your Holy Spirit. Amen.

