



**What NOT to Wear**  
**November 8, 2020**  
*Colossians 3:1-8 (NRSV)*

### Connect:

- “*No shirt. No shoes. No service.*” There are many ways to learn what *NOT* to wear. Tell a story of a time you showed up for something and immediately learned (*or at least felt*) you were underdressed, overdressed, or clearly not wearing the expected attire.

### Engage

- Read *Colossians 3:1-8*. Paul starts this pericope (*passage of scripture*) with “*Since you’ve been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above where Christ is.*” How would you express Paul’s sentiment in your own words? What does this mean in your day-to-day living?
- In this season of chaos and division, do you recognize yourself? Are you acting differently than you normally might? What keeps you grounded (*or feeling like yourself*) during difficult times?
- Do we seem to live as though we are created in the image of God or as if God is created in ours? Discuss the differences.
- While Paul famously shares in this passage what we are to “*put on*” as those “*raised with Christ,*” he also suggests what we are *not* to wear. In those items listed to take off, he includes: *greed, impurity, anger, slander and abusive language* among them. Which of those do you find harder to take off these days? Why?
- While we feel the tough season of side-taking is so great right now, it is not a new experience. Jesus navigated the same things or he wouldn’t have needed to teach, “*Love your enemies.*” Who would you describe as an “*enemy*” right now and what would it look like to love them?
- Can the church truly be a place where people of all backgrounds, political stripes, and theological understandings come together? Is Broadway such a church? If not the Church, then where might this be possible?

### Next Steps:

- The best counter to all the anger and frustration we may hold in our bodies and spirits is expressing gratitude or helping another in need. Channel whatever angst you currently hold this week and pour it into a new volunteer effort or write five notes to people in your life you know to be especially hurting right now. See if that does more for your faith, and theirs, than participating in the ongoing divisive and hate-filled rhetoric of the season.

### Pray:

- “*As we move from this sacred time, let us put on the armor of God: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the sandals that bring the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the sword of the spirit. Wearing the strength of God, we go in peace. Amen.*”