

Study: A Useful Vessel

Text: Colossians 3:5-9

OUR PRACTICE FOR USEFULNESS—“PUTTING OFF”

**Memory verse: 2 Timothy 2:21** If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet [*useful*] for the **Master's** use, and prepared unto every good work.

- † The *Pursuit* of a USEFUL Vessel—be ALWAYS useful (2 Tim. 2:20-23)
- † The *Preparation* of a USEFUL Vessel—be IN the Word (2 Tim. 2:14-19)
- † The *Perspective* of a USEFUL Vessel—be HEAVENLY minded (Col. 3:1-4)
- † **The *Practice* of a USEFUL Vessel—what to PUT OFF (Colossians 3:5-9)**

**Paul emphasizes that a detrimental thought process leads to destructive actions.**

**I. \_\_\_\_\_ to Put OFF**

**A. PUT OFF \_\_\_\_\_ Kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5)**

One of our greatest challenges in life is that we \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves too much. This gets us into trouble.

“*fornication*” – This is any unlawful \_\_\_\_\_ act.

“*uncleanness*” – an unholy \_\_\_\_\_ which comes from a perverted passion of the heart.

“*inordinate affection*” – This speaks of a kind of desire that is \_\_\_\_\_ and unreasonable.

“*evil concupiscence*” – wicked cravings or injurious intentions;

“*covetousness*” – a constant desire for \_\_\_\_\_

**B. PUT OFF \_\_\_\_\_ Kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8-9)**

**1 Peter 2:1** Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

“*anger*” – habitual \_\_\_\_\_ of abhorrence

“*wrath*” – sudden \_\_\_\_\_ of anger

**Ecclesiastes 7:9** Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.

“*malice*” – This is attitude of ill will toward others.

“*blasphemy*” – Speech that \_\_\_\_\_ others down.

“*filthy communication*” – foul speech or dirty humor; obscene language  
“*lie*” is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the truth in any form to any degree.

**Colossians 4:6** Let your speech *be always* with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

**II. \_\_\_\_\_ to PUT OFF**

**Proverbs 1:10** My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

**A. Putting off by \_\_\_\_\_**

1. Remember that you are \_\_\_\_\_ to sin (Rom. 6:11)
2. Remember God's \_\_\_\_\_ (Colossians 3:6-7)

**Remember that God hates sin.**

**B. Putting off by \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 1:9)**

**Luke 12:15** And He said unto them, “Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth [*is*] not [*defined by*] in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.”

Q: What changes do you need to make in order to be a MORE faithful, useful vessel?

**What is my next step?**

(*Put off*) What must I put off that is both hinder my walk with Christ or someone else's?

(*Renew your mind*) What qualities or Words of Christ must I meditate upon?

(*Put on*) What qualities of Christ must I seek to have as a characteristic of my life?