GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

Putting on Kindness

Colossians 3:12-17



YOUR BIBLE READING

Received love becomes visible through compassion, patience, peaceful learning, and thankful action.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Clothing the Heart with Care

Colossians 3:12-17



The letter to the Colossians addresses people as chosen, holy, and loved by God. That belonging comes before the instruction about their conduct. They are then told to put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Putting on is a clothing picture for qualities of life. The writer is not describing a new set of fabric garments with magical powers. He is asking how the people's received love should become visible in their relationships.

Compassion notices another person's difficulty and responds with concern. Kindness gives that concern a practical expression. Humility makes room to listen rather than treating one's own view as beyond correction. Gentleness handles another person with care, and patience allows for the time learning and change may require. The qualities are named together because relationships often need more than one. A correct statement can still be offered harshly, while a gentle response can remain truthful.

The people are asked to bear with one another and forgive complaints as the Lord has forgiven them. Life together can include mistakes, irritation, and hurt. The teaching points toward a response shaped by received mercy rather than a plan for holding every wrong over someone forever. Forgiveness is not a command to hide abuse or abandon protection. A caring community can seek repair and accountability while refusing to make humiliation or revenge its purpose.

Above these qualities is love, binding them together in unity. The clothing image now gives a sense of what holds the whole response in place. Compassion, humility, and patience are not costumes worn briefly for praise. Love directs them toward another person's good. The passage asks the community to live from the belonging it has received, so that its shared life becomes a place where caring words and responsible action agree with one another.

Remember: Love can shape the words and actions we put on each day.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Peace, Learning, Songs, and Thanks



Colossians 3:12-17

God's peace is to rule in the people's hearts, because they were called together in one body. The instruction concerns a shared life rather than only one person's private calm. Thankfulness follows immediately. A community can remember what it has received while learning to respond peacefully. Peace does not mean every concern remains unspoken. A truthful conversation about a problem may be necessary for relationships to become more just, caring, and safe.

The word of Christ is to dwell richly among them. The image is of a message being welcomed and at home, shaping the community rather than remaining a phrase heard once and forgotten. Teaching and wise correction belong to that welcome. People can help one another understand and practice what is good. The passage does not place every instruction in one proud voice. It describes learning that is shared, with wisdom needed in how people speak to one another.

Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs are also named. Singing can carry thanks and teaching, bringing words into memory and shared worship. The letter connects the song of the heart with the qualities already described. Music is not a substitute for kindness, nor is a person's value measured by how confidently they sing. The good news is meant to dwell among them in a life of love, not only in a beautiful sound at a gathering.

The passage ends broadly: whatever they do in word or deed should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father through him. Words and actions are held together. A present-day example might be learning a song about care and then welcoming a lonely person into a suitable activity. This is an illustration for us. The lesson's clothing picture becomes meaningful when compassion, peace, wise learning, and gratitude take practical shape beyond the moment of worship.

Pause and think: Which quality could shape your next words so they are both truthful and caring?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Choose What Your Response Will Wear



Clothing is something we put on, and the letter uses that familiar action to help us think about conduct. Before a difficult conversation, you might ask what compassion or humility would look like in your next words. You cannot control the other person, but you can seek adult help in choosing a truthful, careful response. The image gives you a memorable question rather than a costume to display.

Forgiveness can include the hope that a relationship becomes healthier. It can also require boundaries and time. If someone is harming or frightening you, tell a trusted adult. Patience does not mean waiting silently for danger to pass. Gentle conduct can include a firm refusal, a report of wrongdoing, or a decision to stay in a protected place while adults address the problem.

The passage welcomes teaching, songs, and gratitude into shared life. Consider one lesson you have sung or heard recently. How could it become an appropriate action? Thanking a helper, sharing a turn, or correcting a mistake without mocking are small possibilities. These are examples today, not events in the letter. Love helps a remembered message become visible in care.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

God’s loved people are called to wear compassion in their conduct and join peace, wise learning, worship, and gratitude.

Which quality could shape your next words so they are both truthful and caring?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What does putting on kindness mean here?

2. What should belong together in the final instruction?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Practice peace, wise learning, and gratitude in words and actions.
- ☐ Receive belonging as people loved by God.
- ☐ Let compassion, forgiveness, and love shape relationships.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a coat labeled with caring qualities, then add a small example of one quality in action.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Love can shape the words and actions we put on each day.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Colossians 3:12-17

A thoughtful conversation

Identify putting on as a metaphor for conduct, beginning with the people's being loved. Forgiveness and patience do not require tolerating abuse, withholding reports, or removing safety boundaries. Connect songs and teaching with one practical action. Welcome different abilities and temperaments without measuring spirituality by performance, confident speech, or musical skill.

Activity answers

1. Letting caring qualities shape conduct, rather than wearing literal special clothing.
2. Words and actions done in Jesus' name with thanksgiving to God.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, clothe our words and actions with compassion, truth, peace, and thanks. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Colossians 3:12-17. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original symbolic vector artwork by DigiPick.store; a learning aid, not an additional Bible event.
This adapted story pack is shared under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0. Credit the creators, identify changes and use the same license for adaptations. Genesis to Revelation edition 3.0.