

# LIVING WITH A THANKFUL HEART

## Colossians 3:15-17

### 1) A THANKFUL HEART DEMONSTRATES THE PEACE OF CHRIST (3:15).

- a. internally—“*in your hearts*”
- b. in community—“*members of one body*”

*So then, let us be always seeking the ways which lead to peace and the ways in which we can support one another.* Romans 14:19 (NJB)

### 2) A THANKFUL HEART OVERFLOWS WITH THE WORD OF CHRIST (3:16).

- a. Christ himself is the word (John 1:1)
  - i. He lives there; he is not a guest—“*dwell*”
  - ii. He fills the house—“*richly*” (Cf. Ps. 1:2-3).
  - iii. The word of Christ is more than the Bible.

*The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts more incisively than any two-edged sword: it can seek out the place where soul is divided from spirit, or joints from marrow; it can pass judgment on secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing is hidden from him; everything is uncovered and stretched fully open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.* Hebrews 4:12-13 (NJB)

- b. When the word lives in us we
  - i. speak with wisdom.
  - ii. would rather sing than complain.

### 3) A THANKFUL HEART IS CONTROLLED BY THE NAME OF CHRIST (3:17).

- a. The name of Christ is his authority over me.
- b. The name of Christ is his identity with me.
- c. See 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1.

*AM I KNOWN FOR GRUMBLING OR GRATITUDE?*