

# Growth Teams

Week Beginning  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2015

## Going deeper

In Colossians 3:14, Paul tells us to 'bear with one another'. How we treat each other should reflect our identity as Christians. This theme of caring for one another is a common one throughout the New Testament.

Read the verses below and answer the following two questions for each verse.

John 13:34-35; 15:12; Hebrews 10:24; James 5:16;  
1 Peter 1:22; 4:9; 5:5; 1 John 4:7,11,12  
Romans 12:10,16; 13:8; 14:13,19; 15:7,14  
Galatians 5:13,26; 6:2; Ephesians 4:2,32; 5:21  
Philippians 2:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:9; 5:11,15

5. How does this verse teach us to treat one another?
6. How (if at all) is that linked with our identity in Christ?

Now answer the following questions:

7. How well is the New Testament's concern for supporting one another reflected in our priorities as Christians?
8. Why is the concern to support one another such an important theme in the New Testament?
9. Are there specific things that these verses challenge us to do better when we meet in church or as Growth Teams?

**Now turn over and do 'Applying it to our lives'.**



**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever.**

## Can we live better?

Colossians 3:1-17 (page 1184)

*Space to take notes on the talk*

### Identity:

- We \_\_\_\_\_ identify with
- \_\_\_\_\_ identity

Focus \_\_\_\_\_ identity

Don't \_\_\_\_\_ like everyone else

\_\_\_\_\_ like Christ

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Starter question

- What different nicknames have you had in your life? How have they reflected your identity?

### Responding to the talk

1. Is there anything from this week's talk that you hope we talk about as a group?
2. Read Colossians 3:1-4
  - a. What do these verses remind us about who Christ is?
  - b. How do these verses want us to see ourselves?
  - c. Why is Paul telling us to set our minds on things above?
3. Read Colossians 3:5-9
  - a. What three things does Paul tell us to do with our 'old ways / self'? Why does he use such strong language?
  - b. Which of the vices in verse 5 do you think are most common in Ramsgate today?
  - c. Which of the vices in verse 8 are the biggest problem today?
4. Read Colossians 3:10-17
  - a. How does Paul keep our focus on Christ in this section?
  - b. Which is our church's weakest virtue from verse 12?
  - c. Of the things commanded in verses 15-17, which do we most need to improve on as a church?

*If there is time, you may like to do the 'Going deeper' questions over the page. Otherwise please just jump to questions 10 and 11.*

### Applying it to our lives

10. A Christian friend is keen to live a better life. From what this passage teaches, what would you advise them to do?
11. From your answers to verse 4b and/or c, what teaching about Jesus do we need to stress more as a church?