

**MESSAGE NOTES**  
**Checkpoints: 7 Markers on The Journey to Spiritual Maturity – Part 4**  
***Does The Peace of Christ Rule In Your Life?***  
**Colossians 3:15**

**Our Ministry Goal:** 80% of COMMUNITY will take their next step in their relationship with Jesus and each other in 2024.

Just as there are checkpoints such as places along a road or border where travelers are stopped for inspection, or a list we check to be sure we are remembering everything, it is good to ask ourself some questions, or allow someone else to ask some questions to make sure we are on the right spiritual path and we are taking the next steps to grow in our relationship with Jesus and others. This series on Colossians 3:12-17 will offer us 7 spiritual checkpoints.

**PLACE FOR NOTES:**

The first “checkpoint” has to do with ... Our Identity and understanding of who we are.

The second “checkpoint” has to do with ...Being spiritually clothed in Compassion, Kindness, Humility, Gentleness, and Patience.

The third “checkpoint” has to do with how we deal with conflict.

**PLACE FOR NOTES:**

See Colossians 3:15....

**1. Peace as the state opposite of war.** – See Luke 14:31-32; Acts 12:20, 24:2...

**2. Peace as reconciliation with God.** – See Romans 5:1, Colossians 1:20...

**PLACE FOR NOTES:**

**3. Peace as a feeling of rest and well-being in the heart, soul, and mind, which is given by the Lord Jesus to his followers through the power of His Spirit.** – See John 14:26-27, 16:33; Romans 15:13; Galatians 5:22, Philippians 4:6-7...

**PLACE FOR NOTES:**

**4. Peace as the absence of active conflict with people in the world around us.** – See Romans 12:17-19...

**5. Peace as harmony and unity with other believers in the body of Christ.** – See Colossians 3:15, Ephesians 4:3, 2 Corinthians 13:11...

**The peace of Christ should be the umpire, arbiter, decision maker.**

**Declare what is foul...**

1. Bite and devour one another.  
(Galatians 5:15)

2. Harbor resentment and  
bitterness. (Ephesians 4:31)

3. Demand to be served.  
(Matthew 20:28 & Mark 10:45)

4. Insist on having it my way.  
(Philippians 2:4a)

5. Focus only on my preferences.  
(1 Corinthians 13:4-6)

**Declare what is fair...**

1. Build each other up.  
(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

2. Foster a forgiving spirit.  
(Ephesians 4:32)

3. Eager to serve others.  
(Matthew 20:28 & Mark 10:45)

4. Defer to others to keep peace.  
(Philippians 2:4b; Ephesians 5:21)

5. Focus on what's best for the body.  
(1 Corinthians 13:7)

**PLACE FOR NOTES:**

**Taking It Home**

We encourage you to take a few minutes today and this week to process this morning's message. These questions are designed for discussion with your family, a friend, mentor, spouse, and small group. They are also useful for self-reflection.

1. What stands out to you in these passages from the Bible? From the message?
2. What is difficult for you to understand or accept in these passages from the Bible? From the message?
3. What is God saying in these passages and through what we heard in the message about Himself? About people? About you?
4. What examples are there to follow, commands to obey, or promises to stand on from these passages in the Bible, and from what we heard in the message?