

Community on the Frontline

Colossians 3:12-17

Chris Wright

Mission and Ministry are far too important to be left to missionaries and ministers

Important clarification

This does NOT mean we all turn into evangelists while we are working but that we consider our work to be contributing the establishment of the kingdom of God on this earth

Another Important clarification

We are not doing this as individuals but as a Community on the frontline where we support one another in our particular role

Therefore!

Colossians 3:11

There is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all

Colossians 1:20

Through Christ to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross

What this the nature of this frontline community?

Chosen

Holy

Beloved

Clothe yourself



Clothe yourself Ephesians 6:10-17

Truth

Righteousness Readiness Faith

Salvation The Word of God Clothe yourself Colossians 3:12

> Compassion Kindness Humility Gentleness Patience

Clothe yourselves!



Important Notes!

Command is plural not individual, so the command is to the community not to individuals.

Clothing ourselves is a community activity which implies helping one another to clothe ourselves as a community for our frontline.

How can we do this at Hertford Baptist Church?

Vss. 13-17

- Bear with one another in forgiveness
- Put on Love
- Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts in unity
- Let the message of Christ dwell in your hearts, admonishing one another, being thankful together
- Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus

Conclusions

- As a community on the frontline, we need to clothe ourselves and help each other to "get suited up" in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience
- Mutual forgiveness, love, peace of Christ in unity, message of Christ in encouragement and thanksgiving are necessary community characteristics for a community on the frontline

Conclusions

All these individuals are and do as part of the community on the frontline is done in the name and for His glory

Challenge

What are we going to do about this?

How will we put this word of God into practice?