



Christian Resources for Your Journey

DEVOTION FOR AUGUST 2010

*“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.” **Colossians 3:2***

Does this verse mean that we should only think of heavenly things and not of anything of this earth? That doesn't sound very realistic – after all, we need to pay attention to our daily responsibilities in this world.

Rather, I think that this verse encourages us to have an overall “mind set” that is based on things above, which we can also interpret to be things of God.

And what are the things of God? Love is primary: loving God, and loving our neighbor as ourselves. As we live in God's love, we exercise the gifts of the Spirit, and mature in the fruits of the Spirit. These are ways of living. We still perform our earthly tasks (we can't just sit and wait for the Rapture) but we utilize heavenly, Godly attitudes of the heart to do them.

For example, we can drive to work all frazzled and stressed with our minds on the minutia of the day (a mind set on earthly things) – or we can drive to work praising God, rejoicing in the Creation around us and the blessing of having a job. The task is the same (driving to work) but the way it's done demonstrates where our minds are focused.

We can use this method for all our daily tasks – doing laundry, studying for an exam, going to a meeting, writing an email, cooking dinner. Are these just tedious tasks that we perform in a routine way? Or are we deliberately setting our minds on things above while we carry out our responsibilities?

Where is your mind set?

Lord, Thank you that our lives offer so much opportunity for living with a heavenly mindset. Help us to remember this verse, and to set our minds in a pattern of your love. Amen



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