**Colossians 3:1-17 Wear a thankful hat**

**Leader’s Notes**

**HOOK**

**1. What sport jerseys do you own? How big a fan are you of those teams?**

**2. Does it matter what kind of clothes people wear at our church? What happened to the idea that you should wear your Sunday best?**

**3. Share a time when a Christian (or group of Christians) were more interested in making a point than making a difference? How did that impact you?**

**BOOK**

**Read Col. 3:1-4**

**4. Why did Paul write to living Christians and say: “for you died”?** (Because they were baptized believers, who died to themselves and live for Jesus.)

**5. What are key distinguishing features of believers? (Col. 3:1; John 13:35)**

(a mind and heart focused on Jesus; love for one another)

**6. Read Col. 3:5-9. How do we kill those things in us? Isn’t it easier just to co-exist peacefully with our dark side?**

**7. Read Col. 3:12-14. What do all these Christ-like clothes have in common?**

(they are other person centered.) **What ties the outfit together?** (Love.)

**8. Which of the list of Christian clothes would like to wear more? Which is the least natural for you?** (Remember, the less natural these qualities are, the more noticeable when you wear them.) **Is it easier or harder to read the Bible than love others?** (Don’t confuse spiritual disciplines and discipleship.)

**9. What difference does gratitude make?** (Improves our health, sleep, relationships, emotions, personality and career. Thankful people are more optimistic, more spiritual, less materialistic, less self-entered, have more self esteem and are better managers.)

**10. Who is one of the most grateful people you know? Would you say that person is well liked and has lots of friends?**

**11. How can we cultivate gratefulness?** (writing thank you notes, keep a journal, talk about things your thankful for, pray prayers of thankfulness.)

**12. Read Col. 3:17 - How is our work an expression of gratefulness to God?**

**TOOK**

12. Have each person in the group write down something he/she is grateful for. Take the pieces of paper, mix them up, and try to guess who is grateful for what as you read them one by one.

**13. Think of someone you know who is difficult to love. What can you do to love that person this week?**

14. Have group members share a favorite hymn or Christian song. **How does that song encourage and bless you?**  Practice Col. 3:16 by singing some of the songs if your group knows them.