A MATTER OF HEAD AND HEART (vv. 1-2)

- 1. When Paul tells us "Christ is seated at the right hand of God," he is referring to Psalm 110 where God elevates the Messiah to the seat of power and places all things under his feet. The reference emphasizes, as Paul has throughout this letter, Jesus' sovereign power over all things (especially the powers that once controlled us). How should the sovereign rule of Christ, impact the way we approach our daily lives?
- 2. What are some of the earthly things that we tend to clutter our head space?
- 3. What are some of the earthly things that we have set our hearts on?
- 4. What do you think it means to set our "hearts and minds" on things above?
- 5. How do we set our "hearts and minds" on things above?

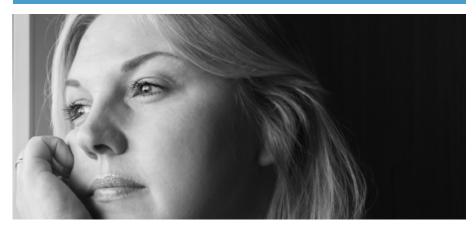
OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE (vv. 3-4)

Paul ties his challenge to set our hearts and minds on things above to our past, present and future in Christ.

- 1. What does Paul tell us about our past, present and future?
- 2. What do you think it means to be "hidden in Christ"?
- 3. How should the fact that we will one day "appear with Christ" in glory impact the way we live right now (you might want to read 1 John 3:1-4 to help you flesh this one out)?

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HEAD AND HEART | COLOSSIANS 3:1-4



A. W. Tozer once said, "The most important thing about you, is what you think when you think about God." We often tell our children following Christ is a matter of "head, hearts and hands"—what we think about, what we set our affections on and what we do.

Paul picks up the same idea in Colossians 3:1-4. In verse one he tells us, "set your hearts on things above," and then in verse two, he challenges us "set you minds on things above." Before Paul gives us some practical insights on how to live the Christian life, he wants to make sure our head and our hearts are in the right place.

OUR UNION WITH CHRIST (vv. 1-4)

One of Paul's major themes in the book of Colossians is "our union with Christ" — the new reality we experience because we are in Christ and Christ is in us. In these verses Paul mentions five different points of union with Christ.

- 1. See if you can list all five (some are more subtle than others).
- 2. What is the impact that each of these should have on our present experience of the Christian life?