

What Makes You So Attractive, Colossians 3:12-14 – July 21st, 2019

- I want to talk with you about something that the Lord has been ministering to me over the years as it relates to being attractive.
- By attractive, I mean what makes us as Christians attractive to other people in the sense that they are attracted to Jesus in us.
- This is what the Apostle Paul is talking about in our text today, where he lists seven characteristics that we are to be clothed in.

1. Compassion

- I do find it very interesting that Paul would start with compassion because it speaks to that which really gets people's attention.
- Sadly, being compassionate these days is so rare that when you genuinely have compassion for someone, they take notice.
- I like how one so aptly said it, "people don't really care about how much you know, until they know how much you really care."

2. Kindness

- I'm of the belief that the topic of kindness could be a sermon unto itself by virtue of how unkind people are even in the church.
- Being kind is so powerful, whether it's a kind word, or a kind act; it has the propensity to really bless someone who is hurting.
- We live in a day when people are becoming more and more selfish and self centered, which comes packaged with rudeness.

3. Humility

- If you were to ask me what I thought was the most attractive trait in the life of a Christian it would absolutely have to be humility.
- To me, this is why scriptures are replete with passage after passage about how repulsive pride is and how attractive humility is.
- It's for this reason, I believe, that Jesus was so attractive to little children who seemed to always want to be around the Savior.

4. Gentleness

- Often times it can be very helpful to look at the opposite meaning of something in order to get a better understand of the word.
- Such is the case with gentleness, and the opposite, which is harshness. Here again, someone with a gentle spirit is attractive.
- One of the truths I'm learning in my walk with the Lord is gentleness is one of the most effective ways to win people to Christ.

5. Patience

- I have to confess that this one is a very difficult one for me personally because I can become very impatient when I'm in a hurry.
- However, the truth of the matter is, when we are patient and longsuffering with people, we will become very attractive to people.
- Like kindness, I see patience coming from selflessness in the sense that we die to our self and consider others more important.

6. Forgiveness

- Forgiveness is another powerful and very attractive trait in the life of a Christian for what would be deemed obvious reasons.
- Here again, the opposite of forgiveness, which is un-forgiveness, can be very helpful in understanding how attractive this is.
- I would suggest that forgiveness or un-forgiveness is the difference between a relationship filled with bitterness or sweetness.

7. Love

- The seventh one on Paul's list is so apropos because it's love that ties, and even holds, the other six characteristics in place.
- I'll take it a step further and suggest that not only does love hold them together; it's love that produces them in the first place.
- The reason being is that love is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and it's from the fruit of love that everything else comes as a result.

Galatians 5:22-23 - 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.