

QFMC 5 Day Devotional

Week of August 31, 2025

By Andrew Royer

Day 1: Our True Identity Is Found in Christ, Not in Roles

In a world that constantly pushes us to define ourselves by our jobs, family roles, or achievements, Scripture reminds us that our deepest identity is not found in what we do, but in who we are in Christ. When we surrender our lives to Jesus, we are given a new identity—one that is not bound by old titles, failures, or even successes. This new identity is like changing out of old, stained clothes and putting on something fresh and clean, given to us by Christ himself. When we internalize this truth, it changes how we see ourselves and how we live each day, anchoring us as beloved children of God and citizens of heaven.

Colossians 3:1-4 (ESV)

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Reflection: When you look in the mirror or reflect at night, what labels or roles do you most often use to define yourself—and how might you begin to see yourself first and foremost as a child of God?

Day 2: Put to Death the Old Self and Its Habits

Paul calls us to a radical transformation—not just to try harder or manage our sin, but to put to death the old, sinful patterns that once defined us. This is not about legalism or cheap grace, but about taking our habitual sins as seriously as we take our biggest life challenges. Just as we bring our griefs and struggles to God in prayer, we are called to bring our recurring sins—anger, greed, lust, dishonesty, and more—before him, seeking his power to overcome them. This is a call to honest self-examination and to actively pursue freedom in Christ, refusing to let these old habits camouflage us in the world.

Colossians 3:5-9 (ESV)

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.

Reflection: What recurring sin or old habit do you tend to minimize or ignore, and how can you bring it honestly before God today, asking for his help to put it to death?

Day 3: Renewal Is an Ongoing, Spirit-Led Process

The Christian life is not just about stopping bad behaviors and starting good ones; it is about ongoing renewal—a lifelong process of being made new by the Spirit of God. This renewal is not achieved by sheer willpower, but by surrendering to God and allowing him to reshape our instincts, desires, and reflexes. As we put off the old self, we are called to put on the new, to be continually renewed in knowledge and likeness of our Creator. This is not a one-time event, but a daily journey of sanctification, where we grow more and more like Jesus.

Colossians 3:9-11 (ESV)

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Reflection: In what area of your life do you sense God inviting you into deeper renewal, and what would it look like to surrender that area to his ongoing work today?

Day 4: Clothe Yourself with the Character of Christ

Having put off the old self, we are called to actively put on the new—clothing ourselves with the very character of Jesus. This means choosing compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and above all, love. These are not just behaviors to check off a list, but qualities that flow from our new identity as God's beloved people. When we wear these "new clothes," we stand out in a world marked by anger, pride, and division, becoming visible representatives of Christ's love and unity.

Colossians 3:12-14 (ESV)

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Reflection: Which of these Christlike qualities do you find most challenging to "put on," and how can you intentionally practice it with someone in your life this week?

Day 5: Live as a Representative of Jesus in All You Do

Our new life in Christ is not just for ourselves—it is meant to be lived out as representatives of Jesus in every word and action. We are called to let the message of Christ fill our lives, to encourage and support one another, and to do everything in his name with gratitude. This is a communal journey, not a solo project; we need each other to walk in renewal and to show the world who Jesus is. Every day, we have the opportunity to either blend in or to let Christ's life shine through us, pointing others to him by the way we live.

Colossians 3:15-17 (ESV)

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Reflection: What is one specific way you can represent Jesus—through your words, actions, or attitude—at home, work, or school today?