**Sermon Notes**

**“Renewed Character”**

Colossians 3:1–14 (NIV84)

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. 5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11 Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. 12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

**The Characteristics of a Renewed Character**

“Put to death…”

“Clothe yourselves with…”

**The Resurrection and Character Formation**

**A Renewed Character: Where do we start?**

1. *What do I need to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?*
2. *What do I need to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?*

**Questions for Discussion**

1. How would you summarize this message for those who did not hear it?
2. Was there a part of this message that has stuck with you since Sunday? If so, what was it?

3. Do you agree with Jeff that many Christians see the intentional development of a Christ-like character as optional in their walk as Christians? What evidence do you have for your answer?

3. Is there anything on Paul’s list of things Christians are called to “put to death” that surprises you? Is there anything on his list of things Christians are to clothe themselves with that surprises you?

4. Do you think there is a problem with the bumper sticker “Christians aren’t perfect, just forgiven”?

5. “The resurrection gives us a bigger story through which we can understand why our character formation is so important.” Agree or disagree?

6. What dimensions of character formation do you believe God is challenging you to develop?