

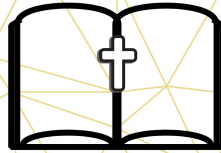


DAILY MEDITATIONS

with Rand Hummel

J E S U S

the VISIBLE icon
of the INVISIBLE God



a Meditation on Colossians

Listen to Today's Meditation

Day 19

Read [Colossians 3:12-13](#)

Can anyone see Christ in me?

How can I make the gospel look good?

“Fashion Shows” are unrealistic. They model what everyone wants to look like but probably never will. Spiritual “Fashion Shows” are quite different in that God chooses the design and the make of the garment not to draw attention to the model, but to the Designer. It’s not a “look-at-me” but a “look-at-God” way of living. God has chosen you to put on what He knows will be fashionable both here on earth and in heaven. By what we put on, we can make the gospel look good!

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

God describes those He chose (the *holy and beloved elect of God*) to advertise His truth. Who are the holy and beloved? God puts within hearts the desire to know and trust Him. Although the concept of election gets confusing at times, we know that everyone who desires to be saved will be saved. Those who have trusted Christ for their salvation are special (*holy*), dearly

loved (*beloved*) children of God.

Put on compassion to make the gospel look good. Using the phrase *bowels of mercies* would be like a guy saying to his fiancée, “I love you with all my intestines!” It refers to the inward pity, the deep sympathy, and the heartfelt compassion we should have for others. Those who have no compassion are cold, uncaring and insensitive. How much do you really care for others?

Put on kindness to make the gospel look good. *Kindness* refers to moral excellence and integrity. It is the moral goodness that impacts lives for good instead of bad. The person who refuses to be kind is harsh, cruel, and calloused. Not a fun person to be around. As your friends watch you walk down the spiritual runway, what do they notice the most—your gentle goodness or your cruel callousness?

Put on humility to make the gospel look good. *Humbleness of mind* reveals how we view ourselves. Our view of God affects our view of self; our view of self affects others’ view of God. The opposite of humility is conceit, haughtiness, pride, self-centeredness, arrogance, egotism, and superiority. What are you known for? Do you make the gospel look good with a humble spirit or do you make the gospel repulsive with conceit, arrogance, and a feeling of superiority? Humble servants put others first in line, and then step out of the line.

Put on meekness to make the gospel look good. *Meekness* has the strength to retaliate and the power to defend itself, but chooses not to because it puts others above itself. The person who lacks meekness is harsh, rude, impolite, and disrespectful. It takes a great deal of strength to be meek and gentle. Being gentle with a baby grand piano takes an incredible amount of physical strength. Being gentle with another person’s feelings takes an incredible amount of spiritual strength. What are you known for? Are you strong and meek or harsh and weak?

Put on patience to make the gospel look good. *Longsuffering* is the ability to endure a tough situation for as long as it takes for God to get you through it. It is synonymous with patience which simply put, is waiting without whining. Do not give God deadlines. Patience, especially with difficult people, makes the gospel look good.

Put on tolerance to make the gospel look good. *Forebearing one another* means not acting like a bear toward each other, but making allowance for each other’s faults. Do others think you are impatient or intolerant? Forbearing Christians put up with the irritating, annoying people in life.

Put on forgiveness to make the gospel look good. Whom on this earth do you refuse to forgive? Anyone? If God forgave you like you forgive others, would you be concerned? If you have a disagreement or a quarrel against anyone, make the gospel look good—forgive!

Remember, God chooses the design and the make of the garment not to draw attention to the model, but to the Designer. It’s not a “look-at-me” but a “look-at-God” way of living. God has chosen you to put on what He knows will be fashionable both here on earth and in heaven. By what we put on, we can make the gospel look good!