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Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Magazine

What God Sees... My Heart

By Peggy Wunschel

Take a few moments to reflect on who you are in life and in your relationships. (Close your eyes if it helps you concentrate.)

Now that you have had some time to ponder the you in your life, let's respond honestly...

What do people see when they are with me?

My Family • My Friends
My Coworkers • A Stranger • God

Does everyone see me the same?

Am I the same to everyone, or do I respond to people in different ways?

Prayer: Father, God, You have wonderfully created us in Your image. Renew us in the knowledge of Your Word by the power of Your Holy Spirit, so that daily we can become more like Jesus. As we study Your Word, reveal our shortcomings where we fail to be the children You have called us to be, and reveal the forgiveness Christ won for us. In Jesus, Our Savior's blessed Name, Amen.



What does God want to see in me? While reading God's Word in **Colossians 3:1-17**, consider the life God would like you to lead.

Now go back over your list and compare it to what you read in Colossians 3. How many virtues from Colossians 3 do you

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Selected articles or parts

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display in your life? Are there any changes to your list that you might want to happen in your life?

Now reread verse 3 in Colossians 3. God tells us that **we died** and **our life is now hidden with Christ in God**. What does it mean that we “died”? **Read Colossians 1:22, 2:12, 2:20 and Romans 6:1-11.**

What does it mean that our lives are “hidden with Christ in God”? Read **1 Corinthians 2:6-10** and **2 Corinthians 4:4-6**.

Since our lives are hidden with Christ in God, one thing God sees when he looks at us is the perfect life Jesus lived for us.

Romans 5:19 reveals that the obedience of Jesus during his life has made us righteous in the sight of God. [The *Small Catechism* notes this “active obedience” of Jesus is one reason it was necessary for Jesus to be a true man. *Small Catechism*, CPH 1991, p. 122.] For what other reason did Jesus become true man? Read **Colossians 1:22** and **Hebrews 2:14**.

Reread **Colossians 3:9-10**. We **have taken off the old self** with its practices and **have put on the new self**, which is **being renewed** in knowledge in the **image of its Creator**. God has already done it for us through the life of Christ Jesus and His renewing work on the cross. Check this out in **Philippians 2:13, 2 Corinthians 9:8 and 2 Corinthians 4:7-12**.

If all this has already been done for us, then what is our part? Enjoy the new life God has given to you! Life is an adventure. Don't sit on the sidelines because you have made mistakes in the past, but get out and play the game! Let all the people you meet see Jesus in you and your actions so that God will be glorified. Listen to the Holy Spirit who is changing your attitude and your heart through the message of reconciliation in Christ so that God's image will shine brightly in your life!

Prayer: God, our Creator, thank You for Your Word and its relevancy yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Thank You for renewing our hearts and restoring our lives through Your

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Word and the means of grace. By Your Holy Spirit, show us the attitudes in our hearts that need to change and forgive us for our stubbornness in not wanting to change. With each new day Lord, renew our likeness to You, through Your mercy and grace. In the precious Name of Jesus, Amen.

Peggy Wunschel is Bible Study Editor for the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. Writing and leading Bible studies brings joy and happiness as she shares God's Word with women in her life. She is semi-retired and loves the extra time she has to write and spend with the grandkids.

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