

## new clothes

1. \_\_\_\_\_ off our \_\_\_\_\_

2. Get \_\_\_\_\_ up

3. \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_

### THE BIG IDEA:

\_\_\_\_\_ will never tell you that what you're wearing doesn't look good.

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### THE BOTTOM LINE:

Good spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ happens in the context of good spiritual \_\_\_\_\_

### APPLICATION:

Join a \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been trapped in a fashion disaster?  
If you have, they probably weren't quite as bad as these...

[Fashion Disaster slides]

Sometimes, what we wear either doesn't look good or doesn't match.

This morning, we want to help you avoid some spiritual fashion disasters, and it all begins by understanding that if you've set your heart on following Jesus, then you've been given new clothes  
We'll be getting our fashion tips from Colossians 3:5-14

A quick read shows 3 important steps on the way to good spiritual fashion.

1. Take off our old clothes

This sounds like a no-brainer, but the typical Christian experience is more like this video  
[Tee Shirt world record video from YouTube]

One of the reasons why American Christianity doesn't seem to work is because we add Jesus to what we already have instead of replacing what we have with Jesus

While Christianity is about putting on, it is first about taking off

So, what do we take off?

The old self with all its practices

a. verse 5

- sexual immorality
- impurity
- lust
- evil desires
- greed

b. verse 8

- anger
- rage
- malice
- slander
- filthy language

c. verses 9 and 11

- lying
- division

2. Get cleaned up

Let's face it: what's true in our physical lives is true in our spiritual lives

When we don't feel good, we don't really care what we look like

We start wearing sweats all the time

Verse 12 tells us to put on new clothes, but verse 10 tells us first to put on a new self

Wearing new clothes without a new self is like getting clean clothes on without taking a bath

It looks good for awhile, but eventually the real smell comes through!

How do we put on the new self?

By being renewed in knowledge in the image of our Creator

Broken all the way down, this means that we live with a proper understanding of our relation with God

When that's in place, we're ready to put on the new clothes

3. Put on the new clothes

Verse 12 says that we can only put on our clothes when we know that we've been chosen, set apart, and loved

Ready to see your new wardrobe?

a. verse 12

- compassion
- kindness
- humility
- gentleness
- patience

b. verse 13 and 14

- forgiveness
- love

Remember that clothes don't just jump on us; we have to choose to put them on

Obvious question: With such good thread available to us, why do so many believers look like a spiritual fashion disaster?

Let me make the one statement that I want you to remember and then we'll try to land this plane: Strangers will never tell you that what you're wearing doesn't look good; they'll just make fun of you. But your family will tell you in a hurry not to walk out in public with it on.

Bottom line? Good spiritual fashion happens in the context of good spiritual relationships.

It is for our good that we develop relationships that will help us look our best.

[Chad and the breath mint]

This can cause some friction, and that's why vv. 13-14 highlight the need for patience, forgiveness, and love

Let's focus briefly on forgiveness.

We're to forgive each other the way the Lord forgave us.

- How did He forgive us? Unconditionally.
- When did He forgive us? At our worst.

One of the best applications of this passage? Join one of our Community Groups and start building some genuine connections with people who want you to look your best.

[Social Network video]