

THE CHRISTIAN  
*WorkingWoman*



**What the Well-Dressed  
Christian Wears  
Zoom Bible Study**

7:00 pm (CST)  
Sept. 7 - Oct. 19

**Register: [christianworkingwoman.org/events](https://christianworkingwoman.org/events)**



Lesson 5 – Tuesday, October 5, 2021  
**THANKFULNESS AND LOVE**

**Review**

Last lesson we looked at tolerance, forgiveness, and peace.

What is the most important reason we should forgive others?

Did you wear the peace *of* God this week more than you usually do?

We have two more garments in this gorgeous wardrobe God offers us.

**Thankfulness**

Which of the following characteristics would describe a thankful person?

- Has positive outlook on life.
- Complains about the weather, the job, the house, the husband, the children, the money, the circumstances - etc., etc., etc.
- Sees the glass as half empty rather than half full.
- Refuses to take part in the “gripe sessions” that go on at work and elsewhere.
- Appreciates the good things she has, rather than focusing on the things she doesn’t have.
- Is depressed and discouraged often.

**1 Thessalonians 5:18:** Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

What do you think it means to give thanks in *everything*? How do you do that?

List all you have to be thankful for:

Put your list on a card and keep it in your purse, on your desk, over your sink, on the fridge—anywhere that you'll see it often. Then when you feel thankfulness isn't fitting so good, just start reciting the list—out loud if possible.

Remember, you don't have to *feel* thankful in order to *be* thankful.

**Colossians 2:6 – 7:** So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Nothing is more deadly than a negative, complaining spirit, and God does not intend for his children to be negative. Overflow with thankfulness, even when you don't feel like it. It will look great on you!

## Love

There are three Greek words for our English translation of the word "love." I think you can probably figure out their meanings just by looking at the word. Give it a try:

*Eros*

*Philos*

*Agape*

Agape love is described in 1 Corinthians 13.

**1 Corinthians 13: 4 – 7:** Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup>It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup>Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

What are the key words that describe God's kind of love—agape love?

The good news is you don't have to *like* someone to *love* them.

### SUMMARY

We've gone through all ten of those garments listed in Colossians 3, and here they are, God's garments ready for you to put on:

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Compassion | 6. Tolerance    |
| 2. Kindness   | 7. Forgiveness  |
| 3. Humility   | 8. Peace        |
| 4. Gentleness | 9. Thankfulness |
| 5. Patience   | 10. Love        |

They are ready for you to wear. You can afford them; they are in your size.

There are a few more basic things about wearing these inner garments that we need to understand.

### The Wardrobe Is Worn by Faith

Do you think it's necessary to *feel* humble in order to *be* humble?

Yes  No

If you don't like someone, is it possible to still love them?

Yes  No

If your stomach feels queasy, does that mean you can't wear peace?

Yes  No

If you have to forgive someone more than once for the same thing, does that mean you didn't forgive them the first time?

Yes  No

Does tolerance mean compromise?

Yes  No

Have you learned ways to humble yourself?

Yes  No

The good news is, we don't have to feel these garments in order to wear them.

We wear these garments by \_\_\_\_\_ !

## The Wardrobe Is Not Personality Dependent

Many of these inner garments do not come naturally to our various personalities. But that does not keep any of us from wearing all of them.

Which one of the 10 garments comes most easily for you?

Which one is the most difficult for you to wear?

## Conclusion

If your heart's desire is to wear these beautiful clothes, and you'll commit the time necessary to develop a close and growing relationship with God, you're going to be able to look back in a few weeks and months and see how much progress you've made.

Another good verse to memorize is

**1 Thessalonians 5:18:** Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

