

# DRESSING APPROPRIATELY

FASTING 2025

Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your  
Creator and become like him.  
Colossians 3:10 NLT

In our Christian life, how we 'dress' spiritually is crucial to being ready to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. This act of putting on the new nature is what Scripture refers to as clothing ourselves in Christ.

Living in the Kingdom of God requires more than a simple change of habits; it is a transformation of our being that begins by completely surrendering to the will of God. By putting on Christ, we become ambassadors of His Kingdom here on earth, reflecting His love, justice, and peace in our daily interactions. As we embrace these changes, we prepare not only to live a fuller and more satisfying life here, but also to enter the eternal Kingdom of God, where our garments of righteousness and salvation will present us as adopted sons and daughters of the King of Kings. Let us, therefore, live each day aware of the beauty and responsibility of being clothed in the character of Christ.

The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here.  
So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the  
shining armor of right living.  
Romans 13:12 NLT

Paul encourages us to leave our evil actions behind, as if we were taking off dirty clothes, and to put on a new life filled with righteousness. This means we must change from within, becoming people who reflect God in everything we do.

The transformation that God wants for us is to move from corruptible to incorruptible, from the bad to the good, from what is damaged to what is healthy. In 1 Corinthians 15:53-54, we are told that we must transition from being bound by corruption and sin, to being people made new by the power of the Holy Spirit working in us. In Luke 22:42, Jesus shows us how to do it: He teaches us to submit our will to the Father's, demonstrating that the true spiritual garment is total surrender to God. He chose to follow God's will, even when it was difficult. So 'putting on Christ' means allowing His Word to transform our hearts and minds.

Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

Romans 13:14 NLT

This means we must allow the character of Christ to be reflected in our lives. It is not simply about avoiding evil, but about actively seeking to be like Jesus in everything we do. Here are some ways to do this:

- **Tender Compassion and Kindness:** By being compassionate, kind, and helping others, we reflect God's unconditional love for all humanity.
- **Humility and Gentleness:** Allowing God to manifest the greatness of who He is through us, treating others as more important to ourselves, and seeking to serve rather than be served.
- **Patience and Forgiveness:** These qualities call us to endure the faults of others and offer forgiveness, never forgetting that He forgave us first.

### Application

Constantly reflect on the attitudes and thoughts that govern your heart. Ask yourself if your daily actions are reflecting the image of Christ. This includes meditating on God's Word and allowing it to shape your beliefs and values.

Try to be loving and peaceful in your daily interactions, even when it is difficult. Always look for the good things in your life and be grateful for them, instead of focusing on the negative.

### Reflection

What things in my life need to change for me to be a clear reflection of Jesus? What do I need to wear to be a better representative of the Kingdom of God?