

STRUCTURE

From Sarah:

1. Put on the virtues of Christ (12-14)
 - grounds for the command - their new identity in Christ as holy, chosen, and beloved (12)
 - specific list of qualities to embrace, esp. in relating to the body of Christ (12, 13)
 - culminating call: love, which binds them together (14)
2. Draw from the resources of Christ (15-17)
 - the peace of Christ (15)
 - > grounds for the command - their new identity as belonging to a unified body of called individuals
 - > call to gratitude
 - the word of Christ (16)
 - > specific list of actions to embrace
 - > call to gratitude
 - culminating call: do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (17)
 - > call to gratitude

From Kelsie:

- v. 12-13 God calls believers to put on their new self because of their identity as his chosen ones.
- v. 14-15 Love binds these Christian virtues together and brings the peace of Christ.
- v. 16-17 The fruit of Christ's word dwelling richly inside of believers is worship and thankfulness.

UNIFYING-THEME SENTENCE

From Sarah: In view of our new identity and grounded in a heart of gratitude to God, Paul exhorts us to put on the virtues of Christ, which are bound together in love, and to draw upon the resources of Christ (his peace and his word) together as a unified body.

From Kelsie: God calls believers, his chosen ones, to live in the way he desires, and gives them everything they need in Christ in order to live as God calls.

AUTHOR'S AIM SENTENCE

From Sarah: Paul's main aim is to encourage the Colossians to embrace a heavenly mindset by relating to one another in love and in truth, while reminding them of their new identity and God's provisions for them, which must spark thankfulness.

From Kelsie: Paul aims to exhort believers, God's chosen ones, to live out their new self and shows that it is through Christ ruling and dwelling in them that gives them the ability to live as God calls.