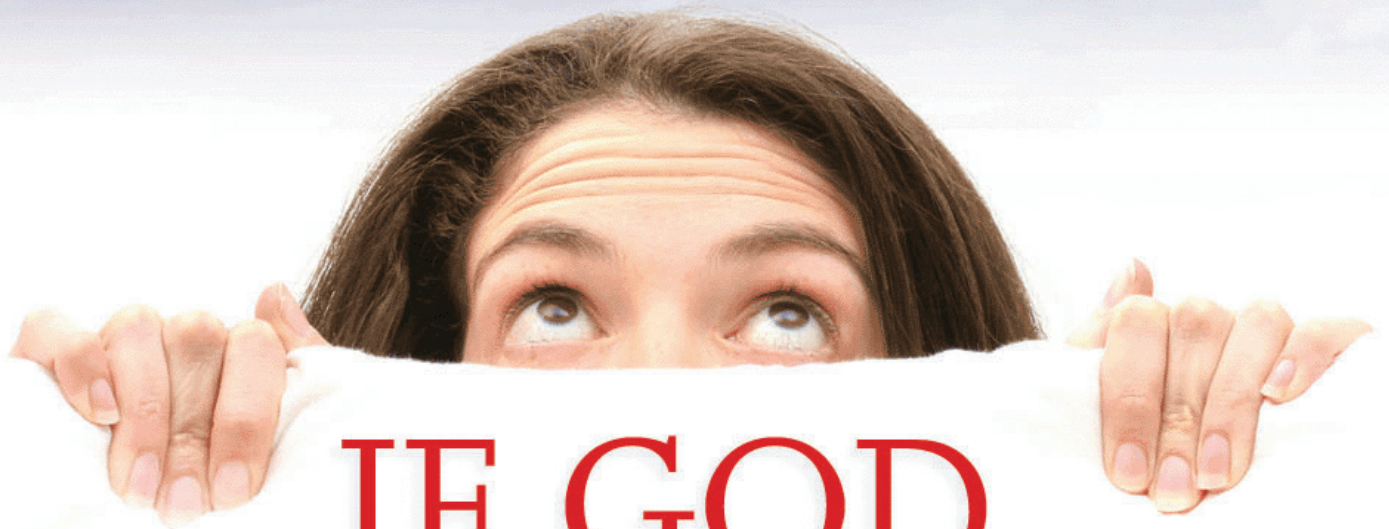


8 DVD Listening Guides



IF GOD  
IS IN CONTROL,  
WHY AM I A  
BASKET CASE?

Extraordinary Choices for a Joy-Filled Life

Debbie Taylor Williams

# IF GOD IS IN CONTROL, WHY AM I A BASKET CASE?

DEBBIE TAYLOR WILLIAMS

## session **I** Introduction

*Colossians: Living An Extraordinary Life for Christ*

# The Big Picture

*"Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth." Colossians 3:2*

### 3 Goals

1. I not only study Colossians, Colossians \_\_\_\_\_ me.
2. The truths in Colossians \_\_\_\_\_ every fiber of my mind, body, and soul.
3. I live an \_\_\_\_\_ life for Christ.

### 5 Who's

1. Paul
2. Believers
3. \_\_\_\_\_ teachers
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ with whom the believers relate

### 5 What's

1. Gnosticism
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Asceticism
5. Syncretism

### 2 When's

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Where's

1. Colossae
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### 1 How

1. \_\_\_\_\_ in you, the hope of glory

### 3 Why's

1. Because God \_\_\_\_\_ loves \_\_\_\_\_ me.
2. So I am \_\_\_\_\_ equipped \_\_\_\_\_ and empowered to stand against false teachings.
3. So I am a \_\_\_\_\_ positive \_\_\_\_\_ influence for Christ in my generation.

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# Stressed or Blessed?

*"Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth." Colossians 3:2*

## 12 Keys for Living An Extraordinary Life

1. Recognize that you are special to God and that your \_\_\_\_\_ is in Christ in the world.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ God's grace and peace toward you.
3. Focus on how you are \_\_\_\_\_, not stressed.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit.
5. Choose \_\_\_\_\_ prayer over ceaseless worry.
6. Be \_\_\_\_\_ with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.
7. Walk \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord.
8. Make \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus and bearing fruit your aim.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ in the knowledge of God.
10. Find your strength and power in \_\_\_\_\_ glorious might.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ steadfastness, patience, and joy.
12. Make \_\_\_\_\_ the bookends of your day.

*CFD Moule, "Prayer makes two great requests. It asks for understanding and insight into God's will and then for the power to perform that will."*

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# Running on Empty or Filled to the Brim?

*"He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Colossians 1:17*

## 12 Extraordinary Truths About God, Jesus, and Us

### God the Father

1. \_\_\_\_\_ us. **V 12**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ and transferred us. **V 13**

### Christ

3. \_\_\_\_\_ us and forgave us our sins. **V 14**
4. Is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. **V 15**
5. \_\_\_\_\_ of all. **V 16**
6. Before all things and \_\_\_\_\_ all things together. **V 17**
7. \_\_\_\_\_ of the body, the church. **V 18**
8. \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead. **V 18**
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God the Father dwells in Him. **V 19**
10. \_\_\_\_\_, our way of peace with God. **V 20**

### Us

11. Are created through and \_\_\_\_\_ Christ. **V 16**
12. Will one day be \_\_\_\_\_ before God holy and blameless. **V 22**

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# Pitiful or Powerful?

*"...Christ in you, the hope of glory." Colossians 1:27*

**Christ has forgiven you and is in you. He wants to work mightily in you.**

## 12 Extraordinary Powerful Choices You Can Make

1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ established, steadfast in your faith. **1:23**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ in your sufferings as you fully carry out your calling from God. **1:24-25**
3. \_\_\_\_\_, don't hide God's mystery: **Christ in you**, the hope of glory. **1:26-28**
4. \_\_\_\_\_ according to Christ's power, mightily working within you. **1:29**
5. \_\_\_\_\_ to a full understanding of Christ. **2:1-4**
6. \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ. **2:6**
7. Be firmly \_\_\_\_\_ and built up in Christ. **2:7**
8. Overflow with \_\_\_\_\_. **2:7**
9. Be \_\_\_\_\_ by Christ's fullness. **2:9**
10. Be captivated by Christ's \_\_\_\_\_. **2:10**
11. Be captivated by the \_\_\_\_\_, not the Law, by the substance, not the shadow. **2:16-17**
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Christ and hold fast to Him, not angels, visions, or self-made religions. **2:18-23**

*"For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me,"  
Colossians 1:29*

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# Down in the Dumps or Reveling in Christ's Glory?

*"Set your mind on the things above, not on the things of earth.  
For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God." Colossians 3:2-7*

**Set your mind on the things above, for soon Christ and you will be revealed in glory.**

## Extraordinary Commands and Promises

**Promise #1** If you are a Christian, you have been \_\_\_\_\_ up  
with Christ. **3:1**

**Command #1** Keep \_\_\_\_\_ the things above. **3:1**

**Promise #2** Christ is above; seated at the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. **3:1**

**Command #2** \_\_\_\_\_ your mind on the things above, not on the things  
on earth. **3:2**

**Promise #3** Christians have \_\_\_\_\_. **3:3**

**Promise #4** Christians' lives are \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ in God. **3:3**

**Promise #5** Christ is \_\_\_\_\_ life. **3:4**

**Promise #6** Christ is going to be \_\_\_\_\_ in glory. **3:4**

**Promise #7** When Christ is revealed in glory, Christians will be revealed in  
\_\_\_\_\_. **3:4**



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# Wearing Your Wrongs or Wearing Your Wings?

*"But now, you also, lay them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.  
Do not lie to one another since you have laid aside the old self with its evil practices."*

*Colossians 3:8-10*

*"So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and  
patience; bearing with one another and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you,  
so also should you. Beyond all these things, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity."*

*Colossians 3:12-14*

**God commands me to put aside my old nature and put on the  
new self who is being renewed according to His image.**

## **Put Aside the Old Self. Put On the Extraordinary New Self.**

1. God commands me to consider the members of my earthly body as \_\_\_\_\_  
to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed. **V 5-6**
2. God commands me to \_\_\_\_\_ all sin. **V 8**
3. God commands me to \_\_\_\_\_ lying. **V 9**
4. God commands me to \_\_\_\_\_ the new self, to bear with one another,  
and forgive as He has forgiven me. **V 10-13**
5. God commands me to \_\_\_\_\_ love. **V 14**
6. God commands me to let Christ's peace \_\_\_\_\_ in my heart and  
be thankful. **V 15**

*"Put to death every part of yourself which is against God and keeps you from fulfilling His will."  
William Barclay*

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# Are You Kidding?

*"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."  
Colossians 3:17*

## 7 Keys to Having An Extraordinary Family

1. Let Christ's word richly dwell within you and \_\_\_\_\_ you for good. **V 16**
2. Teach and encourage each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs,  
\_\_\_\_\_ with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **V 16**
3. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord  
Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father. **V 17**
4. Wives be \_\_\_\_\_ to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. **V 18**
5. Husbands, \_\_\_\_\_ your wives and do not be embittered against them. **V 19**
6. Children, be \_\_\_\_\_ to your parents in all things, for this is well-  
pleasing to the Lord. **V 20**
7. Fathers, (parents) do not \_\_\_\_\_ your children, so that they will  
not lose heart. **V 21**

**Christians have the privilege of living according to God's extraordinary principles!**



**Whatever you do in word or deed, act and speak out of your own will,  
with ingratitude to God and a downcast spirit.**

## **7 Keys to Having A Basket Case Family**

1. Don't read Christ's Word, but if you do, don't let it richly dwell within you or \_\_\_\_\_ you for good.
2. Don't teach and encourage each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
3. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Self, giving thanks to your Self.
4. Wives be \_\_\_\_\_ to your husbands, as is fitting "Desperate Housewives."
5. Husbands, \_\_\_\_\_ your wives and be embittered against them.
6. Children, be \_\_\_\_\_ to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to your friends.
7. Fathers, (parents) \_\_\_\_\_ your children so they will lose heart.

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# Basket Case or Extraordinary?

*"Whatever you do, do your heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve." Colossians 3:23, 24*

## 13 Extraordinary "Wake-Up" Questions

1. Do I serve others with \_\_\_\_\_ of heart, fearing the Lord? Or do I serve with external service, as a man-pleaser? **3:22-24**
2. Do I recognize that I will receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wrong I do? Or, do I falsely think God will be partial to me? **3:25**
3. Do I live under the \_\_\_\_\_ of my Master in heaven? Or, do I live by my own authority? **4:1**
4. Do I devote myself to prayer, keeping alert in it with an \_\_\_\_\_ of thanksgiving? Or, do I pray, but not with an attitude of thanksgiving? **4:2**
5. Do I pray that God will \_\_\_\_\_ doors of opportunity to speak about Christ? Or do I not pray for God to open doors to speak of Him? **4:3-4**
6. Do I conduct myself with wisdom toward outsiders, making the \_\_\_\_\_ of every opportunity? Or do I let opportunities to speak of Christ pass? **4:5**
7. Is my speech always with \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ with salt so I know how to respond to each person? Or is it not? **4:6**
8. Am I a faithful servant of the Lord and \_\_\_\_\_ bond-servant with someone? Or am I a lone ranger who doesn't serve God nor serve Him with others? **4:7**
9. Am I an encourager who builds \_\_\_\_\_ people in the Lord? Or do I tear down? **4:8**
10. Do I \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer for others; that they stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God? Or, are my prayers only for what I want? **4:12**
11. Is my \_\_\_\_\_ associated with the Lord? Or is it not? **4:15**
12. Am I \_\_\_\_\_ my ministry from the Lord? Or am I not? **4:17**
13. Do I \_\_\_\_\_ those who are imprisoned for the gospel? Or, do I forget them? **4:18**

**I can live an extraordinary life through Christ in me! Praise be to God!**

*Blessings, dear friends, as you pursue God and the extraordinary life He has for you!*