Since, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. [2] Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. [3] For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. [4] When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Colossians 3:1-4.

Are you Earthly minded or Heavenly minded?

Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. [2] Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. [3] For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. [4] When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Colossians 3:1-4.

God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:4-7

- Since you have been raised with Christ.
- Since you are seated with Christ in the heavenly realms.
- You have been given a new status, a new rank, a new position in life.

  - ✓ You are a child of God.
  - ✓ You have been forgiven.
  - ✓ You are dead to sin and death.
  - ✓ You have been given a new life.
  - ✓ God has made you a new creation.

- "Are you earth bound or heaven bound?"
- "Are you heavenly minded or earthly minded?"

❖ Paul gives us 2 reminders of how we are called to live our daily lives here on earth.

1. **"**Set Your **heart** on things above."

"set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1

… since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. [2] Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3] Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3

2. "Set your **<u>minds</u>** on things above."

"Set your <u>mind</u> on the things above, not on earthly things." Colossians 3:2

How can we focus daily on heavenly things first?
The answer is found in remembering that:

- It was God who created this earth.
- It was God who put together the days, the seasons, the years.
- It was God who created the normal everyday things of life that all of us have to do.

<u>"I Am"</u> the one who saved you from your sins:

- **TO BE** a witness to a lost world that is focused only on "earthly things."
- **TO BE** a witness to a lost world who are so earthly minded they are of no heavenly good.
- **TO BE** a witness to a lost world trapped in the darkness of worldly business, worldly pleasures, worldly possessions, and worldly power.
- **TO BE** a witness to a lost world who can only see what is right in front of their nose – that there is more to life than what our natural eyes can see.

"Set your mind on the things above, not on earthly things."

[25] "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? [26] Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? [27] Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?
[28] "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. [29] Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.
[30] If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?
[31] So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' [32] For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.
[33] But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
[34] Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.
Matthew 6:25-33

<u>Here are questions Christians need to be asking ourselves:</u>

- Are we earthly minded or are we heavenly minded?
- Is our mind fully set upon Jesus or is it set on the things of this world?
- Is Jesus occupying the center of our life or has Jesus been placed off to the side of our lives?
- Is our heart caught up with heavenly matters or is our heart caught up with earthly cares, burdens, and pleasures?

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.
"Instead, lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
Matthew 6:19-21