

## Dearly Loved

By Yvonne Ortega

**Colossians 3:12: “Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”**

As Christians, people who have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, we are God’s chosen people. We are holy, and God dearly loves us.

As Christians, we are part of the family of God. No wonder he loves us so much.

Now our part is to live as God’s chosen people who are holy. We are to be compassionate. We can start with widows and orphans in our church and community. We can work together to meet their needs.

God also wants us to be kind. A hurting, dying world longs for kindness. Can we take a minute to be kind with the grocery store clerk, the doctor’s receptionist, co-workers, and others we interact with daily?

Humility will cause us to think of others rather than focus on ourselves all the time. We all know sick people who need a card, a visit, or a meal.

Can we approach the grieving with gentleness rather than telling them to stop grieving and be thankful their loved one is in heaven?

What about patience with prodigal children and aging parents? What about patience with God when he doesn’t answer our prayers right away or the way we expected him to answer?

Our homes would be heaven on earth if we practiced compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience with one another. So would our churches and communities.

Yes, we are God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, but as Christians we have the privilege to treat others according to this Bible verse.

Dear God, help me understand how much you love me. Amen.

Application: What specific things will you do this week for your family, church, and community?

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