

BUILT DIFFERENT: Because of Jesus

June 7, 2026

Message Summary.

Because of Jesus, believers have a new identity and way of living. Salvation is not simply about getting to heaven someday; it is about being transformed today. Jesus changes our minds, reshapes our desires, transforms our actions, and helps us see people through His eyes.

Key Scripture Summaries.

Colossians 3:1-4 | Believers are called to set their minds on things above.

Colossians 3:5-6 | Followers of Jesus must put sinful desires to death.

Colossians 3:7-10 | Christians are to put off the old self and put on the new self, becoming more like Jesus in their words and actions.

Colossians 3:11 | In Christ, worldly divisions lose their power because Jesus unites people from every background.

Romans 12:2 | Transformation happens when God renews our minds rather than allowing us to conform to the patterns of the world.

Start Talking.

1. Have you ever experienced a major life change that affected the way you thought, acted, or viewed the world?
2. What are some influences that shape people's thinking today?
3. Why do people often struggle to change even when they know something in their life needs to change?

Start Thinking.

- What does Paul mean when he says to “set your minds on things above”?
- Why is it difficult to keep our thinking focused on Christ in today's culture?
- What is the difference between behavior modification and spiritual transformation?
- Why do sinful desires often begin in the heart before showing up in our actions?
- How can Christians fight sin without relying solely on willpower?

- What divisions in our culture make it difficult to see and love people the way Jesus does?



Start Sharing.

1. Which part of the sermon challenged or encouraged you the most?
2. Are there areas your mind has been shaped more by culture than by Scripture?
3. What practical habits help you keep your focus on Jesus throughout the week?
4. Is there a temptation, attitude, or habit God may be calling you to put to death?
5. Have you ever tried to overcome sin through your own strength? Explain.
6. Which is harder: thinking, wanting, living, or loving differently?
7. Is there someone you struggle to love, forgive, or understand? How might Jesus be calling you to respond?
8. What would it look like for you to become more like Jesus specifically this week?

Start Praying.

Jesus, thank You for making us new. Help us set our minds on You, surrender our hearts to You, and live in a way that reflects Your character. Give us strength to put sin to death, wisdom to follow Your truth, and compassion to love people the way You love us. Transform us daily so our lives point others to You. Amen.

Start Doing.

- Each day, read Colossians 3:1-11 and ask God what He wants to change in you.
- Identify an attitude, temptation, or habit that needs to be put to death and pray about it.
- Ask a Christian friend to encourage and pray for you in an area you need growth.
- Intentionally be kind, encourage, or forgive someone whom you find difficult to love.
- First thing each morning, spend time focusing your mind on Jesus through Scripture and prayer.