



# YOU ARE. KNIGHT NOY

## *You Think. You Are. :: Above the Influence* {Clay Scroggins}

### INTRODUCTION

*Your thoughts determine your actions.* In other words, your perspective on life shapes the decisions that you make on a daily basis. But keeping things in perspective can be a challenge when you're faced with the realities of everyday life. For example, you may not buy into the lie that money can buy happiness, but your finances can become pretty consuming when you're facing unemployment. So in the midst of difficult circumstances, is there a way to keep your eyes fixed on what you genuinely value instead of being mired in the rigors of everyday life?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what areas of life would you like to develop more self-control?
2. Have you ever tried any self-help programs or read any self-help books? How successful were you in those attempts to improve yourself?
3. Read Colossians 3:1-2. How would you interpret the expression, "set your minds on things above"? Is there another way to rephrase that statement?
4. How does a relationship with Jesus Christ affect the way you view life on earth and life after death? How does that relationship change your perspective in regards to difficult circumstances in this life?
5. How might Colossians 3:1-2 recalibrate the meaning of everyday tasks that you do? What's the difference between an earthly perspective and a heavenly perspective?
6. What are some of the challenges of living here on earth and at the same time thinking with a heavenly mindset? What steps can you take to have a heavenly perspective in this life?

### MOVING FORWARD

It's hard to "set your minds on things above" when the realities of life force you to focus on what you hear and see every day. The bills need to be paid. The house needs to be cleaned. Tests have to be studied for. Addictions need to be fought. But is there a way to think about all these things while keeping a heavenly perspective? For those who consider themselves Christians, what does it look like to know that you're *already* living a life with Christ but *not yet* realizing the fullness of that life?

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

*So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective.*

Colossians 3:1-2