**What’s My Word? (part two)**

Colossians 3:12-14

(Part one of this message is available at www.metrocrest.org.)

*My word for 2018 is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

Context: Vices versus Virtues (3:5-9 versus 3:10-17)

***Because of the goodness of Jesus, what’s my true status?*** (Colossians 3:12-13)

1. I am *chosen*. (3:12)
2. I am *holy*. (3:12)
3. I am *beloved*. (3:12)
4. I am *forgiven*. (3:13)

*Because the Lord has been so outrageously good to me, how shall I then live?*

***Given my status, what’s my “word” for 2018?***

* *Compassion* is my word. (3:12)

*The cause of my forgiveness is the tender mercy of our God.*

* *Kindness* is my word. (3:12)
* *Humility* is my word. (3:12)

 *Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.*(lyrics from *Speak, O Lord,* The Gettys)

* *Gentleness* is my word. (3:12)

*Do I bring rest to those around me?*

* *Patience* is my word. (3:12)

*How long is my fuse?*

* *Bearing with* *you* is my word. (3:13)
* *Forgiveness* is my word. (3:13)

**Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV)**
14  For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15  But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

* *Love* is my word. (3:14)

**1 John 4:7-12 (NIV)**
7  Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8  Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Two great choices: Which will I do?

1. ***REJOICE!***

2. ***RECEIVE!***

*My word for 2018 is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*