

# Old Yet New (Ephesians 4:17-32)

*How God Sees You – Part 3*

Life Church St. Louis – February 24, 2013

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

*Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV) "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

*2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!*

## 1. Don't live as an \_\_\_\_\_

*Ephesians 4:17 (NIV) So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.*

### A. \_\_\_\_\_ of unbelievers

*Ephesians 4:18-19 (NIV) They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.*

## 2. Live by Jesus' truth

*Ephesians 4:20-21 (NIV) You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.*

### A. Put off the \_\_\_\_\_ self

*Ephesians 4:22 (NIV) You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;*

### B. Put on the \_\_\_\_\_ self

*Ephesians 4:23-24 (NIV) to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

## 3. \_\_\_\_\_ of putting off and on

### A. Put off lying and speak \_\_\_\_\_

*Ephesians 4:25 (NIV) Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body.*

### B. Put off stealing and \_\_\_\_\_ to share

*Ephesians 4:28 (NIV) He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.*

### C. Put off foolish talk and \_\_\_\_\_ others up

*Ephesians 4:29 (NIV) Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

### D. Put off anger and be kind and \_\_\_\_\_

*Ephesians 4:31-32 (NIV) Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

*Ephesians 4:26-27 (NIV) "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.*

# Old Yet New (Ephesians 4:17-32) – Study Guide

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Intro. Why are some truths in the Bible difficult to understand (Isaiah 55:8-9)?  
How can we grow in our biblical understanding?

In what ways is the truth of 2 Corinthians 5:17 difficult to understand?  
What is the biblical tension of old yet new that must be reconciled here?

- 1A. In what ways do unbelievers live in the “futility of their thinking” (Ephesians 4:17)?
  
- 1B. Describe in your own words, the downward progression evident in the lives of unbelievers over time (Ephesians 4:18-19)?
  
- 1C. How can these characteristics of the lives of unbelievers motivate us to reach out to them?
  
- 2A. In what ways are the lives of believers different than unbelievers (Ephesians 4:20-21)?

- 2B. What does it mean to put off your old self (Ephesians 4:22)?
  
- 2C. How is the new self different from the old self (Ephesians 4:23-24)?
  
- 2D. How can you put on the new self?
  
- 3A. In what ways are we tempted to engage in falsehood (Ephesians 4:25)?  
Why must we speak truthfully?
  
- 3B. Why does God’s Word instruct believers to work throughout their lives (Ephesians 4:28, 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12)?
  
- 3C. What should be the criterion for the speech of believers (Ephesians 4:29)?
  
- 3D. What is the danger in anger for the believer? How is anger overcome (Ephesians 4:26-27, 31-32)?
  
- 3E. In which areas of these examples do you need to work on?