



# EQUIPPED TO SERVE

## LESSONS FROM EPHESUS

### EQUIPPED TO SERVE | “OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOLINESS”

March 15, 2026

#### Ephesians 4:17–24(NIV)

<sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

<sup>20</sup> That, however, is not the way of life you learned <sup>21</sup> when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. <sup>22</sup> 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; <sup>23</sup> to be made new in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

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#### Notes:

#### Two necessary premises:

- In His grace, God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ (2:8,9)
- In His grace, God has created a new humanity to have access to God through His Spirit (2:18)

#### Summary of this passage:

- “take off your former way of living”
- “clothe yourselves with the new self”

## **Opportunity #1: Look Like Jesus**

*Get to the Right Store* (4:17–19)

*Dress like Jesus* (4:20–24; 5:1–2)

## **Opportunity #2: Let the Holy Spirit Work**

*Get Rid of the Old*

*The Obvious* (4:25–32)

*The Subtle* (5:3–8)

*Display the New* (5:9–20)

### **Application:**

1. Learn more about Christ
2. Put on Christ
3. Be filled with the Spirit