

## Summary

This sermon from Ephesians 4:17-24 addresses the transformation that must occur in the life of a believer. Paul emphasizes that Christians cannot continue living like the world around them, but must put off their old self and put on the new self created in God's likeness. The pastor challenges the congregation about Christians who claim salvation but refuse to change their lifestyle, noting how this creates a false witness to the world. The message calls believers to actively participate in their transformation through worship, study, and community, recognizing that salvation requires both putting away old habits and intentionally adopting new Christ-like behaviors.

## Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather together to study Your Word, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to be humble and receptive to Your truth, even when it challenges us or calls us to change. We pray that Your Holy Spirit would guide our discussion and help us to encourage one another as we seek to grow more like Jesus. May we leave this time with a deeper understanding of Your love and a greater commitment to living as the new creation You have made us to be. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Ice Breaker

What's one habit or routine you've successfully changed in your life, and what motivated you to make that change?

## Key Verses

1. Ephesians 4:17-24
2. Galatians 3:27-29

## Questions

1. Paul says we must 'no longer walk as the Gentiles walk in the futility of their minds.' What does it mean practically to walk differently from the world around us?
2. The pastor mentioned that trauma often leads to callousness and self-protection. How can we remain open-hearted and vulnerable while still being wise in a broken world?
3. What are some ways that Christians today might be giving a 'false witness' to the gospel through their lifestyle choices?
4. Paul calls us to 'be renewed in the spirit of your minds.' What does it look like to allow the Holy Spirit to change our thinking patterns?
5. The sermon emphasized that we can't just put off bad habits but must replace them with good

ones. What are some positive Christian practices we should 'put on'?

6. How do you respond when you realize you need to change your mind about something you've believed? What makes this difficult?
7. The pastor said our lifestyle is our 'loudest testimony.' What message do you think your daily life communicates to others about Jesus?
8. What role does community and regular worship play in helping us become more like Christ?

## Life Application

This week, identify one specific area where you're still living like your 'old self' rather than your new creation in Christ. Choose one concrete action you can take to 'put off' this old pattern and one positive Christian practice you can 'put on' in its place. Ask a trusted friend or family member to help hold you accountable as you work to make this change.

## Key Takeaways

1. Salvation requires putting off the old self and putting on the new self - we cannot live with one foot in each world
2. Christians who claim salvation but refuse to change their lifestyle create a false witness to the world about the gospel
3. Transformation requires both removing bad habits and intentionally adopting new Christ-like behaviors
4. Our lifestyle is our loudest testimony - how we live speaks more powerfully than what we say
5. Regular participation in worship, study, and Christian community are essential for ongoing transformation

## Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the truth of Your Word and the reminder that You have made us new creations. We confess that too often we try to hold onto our old ways while claiming to follow You. Help us to have the courage to truly put off our former way of life and clothe ourselves with the new self You have created us to be. Give us strength to make the changes You're calling us to make, and help us to support one another in this journey of transformation. May our lives be a true reflection of Your love and grace to the world around us. We pray this in Your precious name, Amen.