

Ephesians: Masterpiece in Progress Jason Shawa "Walk This Way" 7/9/23

Key Verses: Ephesians 4:17-5:20

Key Thought: We are called to "put off" the old humanity of sin, be renewed in mind, and "put on" the new humanity of righteousness and holiness—created in Christ—which Paul describes as love, light, and wisdom (instead of malice, darkness, and foolishness).

Points to Consider:

- 4:17-4:24: The Foundations The Way to Walk, in General
 - i. 4:22: We are called, negatively, to "put off" the old humanity— to no longer "walk" (i.e., live) according to our former spiritual identity.
 - ii. 4:23: We are called to an ongoing process of the renewal of our minds.
 - iii. 4:24: We are called, positively, to "put on" the new humanity in Christ.
- 4:25-5:20: The Keys The Way to Walk, in Particular
 - i. (Notice Paul's ongoing pattern of a negative command, a corresponding positive command, and then a supporting statement.)
 - ii. 4:25-5:2: "Walk" in <u>love</u> (instead of malice). \rightarrow We are to imitate Christ!
 - iii. 5:3-14: "Walk" in light (instead of darkness).
 - iv. 5:15-20: "Walk" in wisdom (instead of foolishness).
- What Paul here calls us to is another way of viewing the mission statement of our church: "To awaken the broken to a life of wholeness found in Jesus."

Discussion Prompts:

- Are you more so "walking" in the old humanity or the new? → Explain.
- 4:17-24: How does one "walk" in the new humanity?
- 4:25-5:20: Which description of the new humanity is most relevant to you right now?
- What would it look like for you to walk in that aspect of the new humanity?
- Close in prayer for each other, asking for the strong help of the Holy Spirit.