

message summary

In this passage Paul begins to make a switch where he is going to address behaviors of believers. He is about to tell the church how they should be living as they follow Christ. Notice that Paul wrote half the book addressing their identity in Christ before giving them an imperative of how they should be living. The reason being is that our behaviors stem from our identity. Our belief in God will dictate how we behave in life. Paul says that God is not interested in just behavior modification. Paul does not want them to live a better life. Paul wants them to live a brand-new life. He knows that this is only possible through the power of the Holy Spirit. They need complete transformation. A death of the old self and a birth of the new self. Let's read **Ephesians 4:17-24** together as a group and pay attention to the contrast between our former way of life and the transformed life in Christ.

observation

- Who is Paul addressing in this passage?

- What contrast does Paul highlight between the old self and the new self in this passage?

- Are there specific actions or attributes that Paul encourages believers to put off and put on?

interpretation

- What does "the futility of their minds" refer to and how does it impact the Gentiles' way of life?

- What is the significance of the phrase "to be renewed in the spirit of your minds" and how does this renewal occur?

- How can we identify and differentiate between the influences of the worldly mindset and the renewed mindset described in this passage?

INTERPRETATION · INTERPRETATION · INTERPRETATION

application

- What practical steps can we take to renew our minds according to God's truth and align with the new self created in righteousness and holiness?

- How does the process of putting off the old self and putting on the new self manifest in our relationships, work, and personal growth?

- In what ways can the concept of transformation described here impact the way we view our identity as Christians and our interactions with the world around us?

APPLICATION · APPLICATION · APPLICATION