

Ephesians 4.17-19

Walking is living. How we live is what we believe.

What we truly believe, we will live.

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Paul is teaching them the reason to forsake the old life is because it is futile.

Futile- *state of being without use or value, emptiness, futility, purposelessness.*

What was life like before or without Christ? (4.17-19)

- 1. Futility of their mind** – No purpose and hollow thinking.
 - 2. Darkened in understanding** – Move outside the intended will of God in manners
 - 3. Excluded from the life of God**-A choice to follow a different path than God's ways. A willful disregard for the Lord.
 - 4. Ignorant of God** – A choice to live outside of God's ways, and to ignore the inner testimony of God.
 - 5. Hardness or blindness of heart**- A deepened pattern to life without God, easier to ignore God's ways.
- This leads to
- Callousness – conscience no longer sends warnings to deeds of darkness, conditioned to wrongness.
 - Sensuality or lewdness-indecent behavior without shame (you enjoy it, and enjoy watching it)
 - To be greedy for immorality – The Bible's definition of addictions.

You did not learn Christ in this way

Ephesians 4.20-23

1. You heard of Jesus
2. You have been taught God's ways
3. Truth is in Jesus- John 14.6

Ephesians 4.23-24

4. We lay aside our old life.
5. And be renewed in the spirit of your mind:

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:1–2, NIV)

Extras: Ephesians | Choose the New Life
November 19-20, 2022 | Compelled Church

1. Pastor said we live what we truly believe. What do you live that you truly believe? What do you say you believe but don't really live? Why is that?

2. Read Ephesians 4.17-19. What do you observe about life before Christ?

3. How did you live in the futility of your mind, meaning you thought without purpose or death?
Futile- state of being without use or value, emptiness, futility, purposelessness.

4. How were we darkened in understanding before we knew Jesus?

5. How was your heart blind and darkened in the following ways?

- Relationships
- Other people's feelings
- Sexual morals
- Money and debt issues/materials
- Work
- Family

A hard heart produces:

- Callousness – conscience no longer sends warnings to deeds of darkness. Conditioned to wrongness.
- Sensuality or Lewdness-indecent behavior without shame (you enjoy it and enjoy watching it.)
- To be greedy for immorality, the Bible's definition of addictions.

You did not learn Christ in this way

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

(2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV)

6. Read Romans 12.1,2 and Ephesians 4.17-24: **"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind"**

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1–2, NIV)

How is this happening to you?

7. How is Jesus coming to you? What is He saying the last couple weeks? Is there conviction of sin? Is there encouragement from the Spirit? Pray and listen