

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



These discussion questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday message. You can use them for your personal Bible study, family study, and/or small group study.

Overview

Sermon: *Live New*

*22 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; 23 to be **made new** in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the **new self**, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. - Ephesians 4:22-24*

Ephesians chapters 1-3 teach us about what God has done for us in Jesus. The love of God is life changing and the Apostle Paul prays for the church to grasp how wide, long, high, and deep is the love God in Jesus our Lord. As we are filled more and more with the love of Jesus through the Holy Spirit then we not only live worthy of the “calling we have received” but we also live new. Everything about our new life hinges on what God has done through Jesus. We gain a “new self” and a new attitude putting off our old self.

It is by grace and love that we are made new and it is by grace and love that we live into our newness. In Jesus, you are made new. Become what you are.

Discussion

1. What are some changes for the better you have made in your life? What is one thing in your life where you struggle to make change?
2. How does Paul describe a Gentile’s former way of life (4:17-19)? Compare this passage with Ephesians 2:1-3? How does Jesus make a difference in followers’ life? Does this matter? Why?
3. Do you think that the church can sometimes over emphasize behavior change (holiness) at the neglect of what Jesus has done for us through the gospel? How can we help to reorient the message of the gospel and holiness?
4. What comes first belonging or behavior? Why? What do you tend to emphasize more, belonging or behavior, when meditating on your faith or talking to someone about your faith? Why?
5. How could you use the principles of this letter specifically Ephesians 1-4 to talk to someone about belonging and behavior in the context of faith in Jesus?

Application

6. You are made new in Jesus. How can you choose to focus on the grace and love of Jesus this week?
7. Become who you are. In meditating on what God has done for you in Jesus where do you need to repent and turn to God?

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