LIVE FROM THE NEW SELF

Ephesians 4:17-24

SERMON SUMMARY:

When we consider all that God has done for us, very often the message we hear is a list of things we should be doing. We should read our bible, we should pray more, we should serve more, we should share the gospel more, etc. But for many of us, we do not. We get stuck. And even worse, many of us are stuck in sin and feel trapped. Why? In our passage today, Paul tells us the solution.

SERMON OUTLINE:

The Problem We consistently do not follow <u>good advice</u>.

The Old Self <u>Hard hearts</u> lead to <u>rejecting truth</u>. A <u>callous conscience</u> causes <u>indulgence</u>.

Paul's Warning Beware of being <u>educated</u> beyond your <u>obedience</u>.

The New Self

Shed your <u>deceitful desires</u> by <u>renewing</u> your <u>mind</u>. <u>Feed</u> your <u>beliefs</u>. Live from your new identity in Christ, not from your old identity of shame.

THINK ABOUT IT/TALK ABOUT IT:

- Have you ever heard good advice from a friend, but not taken it? Why?
- What does Paul mean by "hardness of heart?"
- What does a callous conscience look like? What does a functioning conscience look like?
- Why is it easier to learn more than it is to obey?
- What does Paul mean by renewing your mind? How does our mind get renewed?
- Talk about life in Christ versus the old identity of shame.