

OLD TO NEW



Notes:

1.

2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of January 27, 2019
Eph 4:17-24

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This weekend we were reminded of what a healthy church looks like. Describe the characteristics of a healthy church and give an example (present or past) of a time you have seen evidence of these characteristics.

2 We also see that every believer has an important role to play within the church to make it healthy. What does it look like in your life to "leave your old life behind" and to "live what you have learned?"

3 How do you stay in the new life? What are some practical steps you need to take right now? Explain.

DIGGING DEEPER

1 **Rom 1:21-25, ESV** – ²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. ²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

Looking at the passage above and the sermon notes, what are the characteristics of a person who is not following God?

How can a person know God, but not follow God?

Think about a time in your life when you displayed these characteristics. What happened to change the way you think and behave?

2 **Col 3:1-17, ESV** *If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

When reading passages about our identity in Christ, we are commanded to remove certain things from our life and add other things in their place. How do we walk through this process?

Paul tells us in this passage that we start with our minds. What practical things can you do to “set your minds on things that are above?”

What specific areas do you currently struggle with and need to remove? What specific areas do you currently need to put on? Explain.

3 **Phil 4:6-9, ESV** – *⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.*

Heb 3:12-13, ESV – ¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

In the Philippians passage above, Paul provides a three-step process for right living. Describe the three steps and how they relate to putting off the old self and putting on the new self.

The author of Hebrews calls us to exhort one another as we live our lives for Christ. How should we exhort one another? Has someone exhorted you recently? Have you exhorted someone? Explain.

TAKING IT HOME

God has called us to put off our old self and put on the new self. This is an ongoing process that requires us to regularly focus on God and His lessons for us. What areas of your life do you need to take off the old self and place on the new self? How can you engage with other believers to exhort one another in Christ-like living?

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Rom 2:12-15
Rom 12:2
1 Cor 1:18-25
2 Cor 4:16
Gal 6:8
James 1:21