

**Put Off**

**Put ON**

**Ephesians 4:17-24**

<sup>17</sup> Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. <sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. <sup>19</sup> They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. <sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!—

<sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him  
and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus,  
<sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which  
belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt  
through  
deceitful desires,<sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of  
your minds<sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self,  
created after the likeness of God  
in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:17-24

# 1. No Longer Walk in Darkness

**It is not permissible for you to live like you USED to live BEFORE coming to Christ.**

*When we do not know God or believe that He exists, we are left with the pointless or useless things that our minds come up with and say they are valuable.*

**We used to live, assigning value for living in useless things.**

# 1. No Longer Walk in Darkness

**As a follower of Christ those things, as an end in themselves, are pointless.**

*WHY did we live for pointless things? SIN!*

# 1. No Longer Walk in Darkness

**When we are darkened in our understanding or led by our sin, we are alienated or separated from God.**

*The reason that we lived in sin and people live in sin today is IGNORANCE.*

- *Ignorance can be a lack of knowing the truth.*
- *Or, it could be that ignorance is hubris confidence that they/we don't need God and will navigate through this life on their/our own.*

# 1. No Longer Walk in Darkness

**If you are a follower of Christ, that is not WHO WE ARE anymore, so do not live that way! You have cried out for salvation, and Christ has turned on the light of truth through His death and resurrection.**

***SO DO NOT LIVE FOR THE THINGS THAT CHRIST DIED FOR! (Jackie Watts)***

## 2. Put Off/Put On

*“that is not the way you learned Christ!”*

This is not about learning information about Christ but experiencing an authentic relationship with Christ.

**This doesn't mean that you will not learn ABOUT Christ, but you do so through experience in relationship with Him.**

## 2. Put Off/Put On

*“that is not the way you learned Christ!”*

*When we have authentic relationship with Jesus Christ having learned Him in relationship “the riches of God’s grace keeps the DO in its place.”*

## 2. Put Off/Put On

*“put of your old self...and put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”*

People who have an authentic relationship with Christ don't just surrender their life to Him, once and for all, but they **DAILY** surrender their life to Him for the **REST** of their lives.

## 2. Put Off/Put On

*“put of your old self...and put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”*

When we understand the costliness of the grace of God, then we do the hard things like putting off of our sinful ways and put on the new self that is in the likeness of God.

## 2. Put Off/Put On

*“put of your old self...and put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”*

**This has nothing to do with you trying harder, but it has everything to do with learning Christ in relationship**

*When we grasp the depth of the love, mercy, and grace of God, we surrender daily receiving the grace of God, who is the Holy Spirit of God, and He leads us in righteousness.*

# Application

- *Are you living in daily surrender to Christ? A good indicator is are you making any investment on a consistent basis in your relationship with God outside of gathering once a week as the church?*
- *Does your relationship with Jesus and the word of God influence your daily decisions and what takes priority?*
- *Can I identify things that were once part of my life that were sinful but are no longer present?*
- *Are there things in my life that once were NOT part of my life, that are God honoring, and are now present in my life?*

# Application

- *Has Christ made any difference in your life outside of where you spend some of your time on a Sunday morning?*
- *God's Word and the Holy Spirit do the work of changing us, but what effort or response are you giving to those two graces in your life?*

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