

EPHESIANS

WHO I AM AND WHY IT MATTERS

Since Mother's Day, we've been journeying through the book of Ephesians together. Our passage over these next two weeks will encourage us to put off some things and put on some things. The title of our message today is "It's Time to Put Off Some Things." If you like to procrastinate, you might think this is a dream passage for you. If you're like most people, you prefer to put off hard conversations, doing your taxes, going to the doctor, etc. But this is NOT what our passage is saying today. It's more like – you've got to get rid of some things in your life.

Scripture: Ephesians 4:17-24

Discussion Questions:

1. Looking back at your sermon notes, what encouraged or challenged you the most?
2. In Ephesians 4:17-19, what does Paul mean when he says that we should no longer live as the Gentiles do? What characteristics does he point to in these verses to make this distinction? How do we see these characteristics on display in our world today?
3. In Ephesians 4:19, Paul says the Gentiles live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice impurity. How does this compare to the lives we're called to live as followers of Christ?
4. How can we resist the onslaught of temptations we face every day? How are tempted to normalize so many things that God's Word tells us to avoid?
5. In Ephesians 4:20-22, what does Paul mean when he says, "you learned Christ"? How does this compare to what we see happening in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7? How does "learning Christ" help us expose the lies of this world regarding sin and deception?
6. In Ephesians 4:23-24, Paul encourages us to discard our old selves and let the Spirit renew our thoughts and attitudes. What does it mean to "let the Spirit" renew your mind? How do we actively participate in this process of renewal, practically?
7. Considering what we're called to do in today's passage, how important are the relationships in our lives when it comes to helping us live as Christ calls us to live in a world bent in another direction? How have the friends in your life influenced you to move toward God?
8. What's one personal takeaway from today's study you can focus on applying in your life this week?