

Brand New You

Ephesians 4:17-32

Main Idea

We follow Jesus by trading our old way of thinking and living for His way.

- **God's _____ tells us:** Why to Change, What to Change, How to Change
- **God's _____ gives us:** The Power to Change (Philippians 2:13)
- We are no longer to take our cues for living from secular society, but from Jesus. – v 17-19
- Knowing Jesus provides us with a 3-part process of change (v 20-24):
 - Put off the old self
 - Renew your mind
 - Put on the new self
- **Practical commands (v 25-32):**
- Speak truth instead of falsehood because we are members of the same body
- No longer steal but work so you can help others in need
- Change corruptive speech for constructive speech to build up others to fulfill their role and so you don't grieve the Holy Spirit
- Replace anger and malice with kindness and forgiveness because God forgave you in Jesus

Implications

- God calls for a change of _____ and _____ motivated by what Jesus has done for us.

- Our belief in Jesus means that our behavior must change. Our relationship with Him gives us the pathway and the power to accomplish that change.
- Hurting others with our words (to their face or behind their back), also hurts the Holy Spirit.

Application

Renew your mind by regularly interacting with God's Word corporately and privately and by focusing on godly motivations for change.

Discussion

- What are some things we can do practically and regularly to experience the continual renewing of our minds?
- Paul mentions anger twice and speech three times and directly connects them once. What does this tell you about how seriously God takes these issues?
- Paul points out that, when we are angry, we often sin against God and other people with our words. How can we change this? How can we avoid sinning when we are angry?
- When it comes to being kind and forgiving, Paul tells us why (because God forgave us) and how (just as God forgave us) we are to do this. How do we put this into practice?
- The command to work (instead of steal) so we can help others in need, reminds us of another command to move from selfish thinking and living to focusing on the needs of others (Philippians 2:3-4). How do you think God wants you to apply this in your current circumstances? What can you do to meet the needs of others?
- Paul gives us a pattern for life change: put off the old, sinful behavior; put on the new, God-honoring behavior; renew your mind by focusing on God's reasons for this change. He gives examples with anger, work ethic, and speech. In what other areas of your life do you think God wants you to put this pattern into practice?