

God's New People.

Ephesians studies **New Standards.**

Key verse: Ephesians 4:17.

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.



Big Idea: New Lord new life. Christian living is about being reprogrammed by Christ in our thinking, speaking, emotions and actions.

Kick Off

Discuss some major changes you've made in life and how long it took you to adjust to the new 'normal'. Change of school, change from school to uni or work, change of work, new home, new car, living at home to living out of home, marriage.

STUDY

Read Ephesians 4:17-5:20.

1. How are we to be motivated to work at transformation in our life 4:32, 5:1?
2. Do you think Paul's perspective regarding non Christians in vv4:17-19 and vv5:11-12, is unnecessarily dark and gloomy or is it spot on? Give your reasons why?
3. Where must Christian transformation begin v23? Why is this the starting point?

Christians are urged to put off our old self and to put on the new self. We are to reject the old and receive the new. To get rid of the old negatives and get a grip on the new positives. It's a life long process of doing both at the same time. We don't get rid of all sin then start gathering righteousness... Christian living is about desiring the right and rejecting the wrong. And this passage goes through a whole range of issues contrasting the old and the new.

4. Words are powerful in both destructive and constructive ways. What does this passage say to us about how we are to use our words?

4:25

4:29

5:4

5:6

5:19

5. Emotions are powerful in both destructive and constructive ways. What does this passage say to us about the way we handle our emotions?

4:26

4:31

4:32

6. Actions are powerful in both destructive and constructive ways. What does this passage say to us about the way we are to act?

4:28

5:3

5:11

5:18

THINK AND APPLY

Christianity presents a very realistic picture of our lost and evil nature without God. And yet Christians are not to be people filled with despair and gloom but rather we are light bearing people living with joy and thanksgiving and hope. Why is this so?

In what areas of your life are you finding it hard to be like Jesus your Lord?

PRAYER

What can you pray about arising from this study?



**For next week
Read Ephesians
5:21-6:24.**