

**“What I Do”
Part 4
EPHESIANS 4:17-32
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“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. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all insensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.”
Eph. 4:17-19 (NIV)

“You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of Him and were taught in Him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.”
Eph. 4:20-21 (NIV)

“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:32 (NIV)

HOW AM I DIFFERENT FROM AN UNBELIEVER?

In our _____ **MINDS** _____ : We think differently

1. Futile thinking or purposeful thinking
2. Darkened understanding or the light of Christ

In our _____ **SPIRIT** _____ : We relate differently

3. Separated from God or a child of God
4. Ignorance or living in Wisdom

In our _____ **HEART** _____ : We feel differently

5. Hardening of their hearts or an open heart
6. Lost sensitivity or new perspective on trials

In our _____ **SOUL** _____ : We commit differently

7. Given themselves over to sensuality or CHRIST!
8. Continual lust or a hunger and thirst for righteousness

Change begins not with knowing about Christ... but with actually knowing Christ.

The power to change your life is found in “the truth that is in Jesus.” It is the truth that sets us free!

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“You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires: to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”

Eph. 4:22-24 (NIV)

Do not lie to each other; since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.” Col. 3:10 (NIV)

“Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins...”
Matt. 9:17 (NIV)

“Your old sinful self has died, and your new life is kept with Christ in God.”
Col. 3:3 (NCV)

“The old way, trying to be saved by keeping the Ten Commandments, ends in death; in the new way, the Holy Spirit gives them life.”
2 Cor. 3:6 (TLB)

HOW CAN I STOP ACTING LIKE AN UNBELIEVER?

Understand the three-step process of growth

(1) Put off the _____ ...

The old self ... corrupted by its deceitful desires.

(2) be _____ in your mind...

The new self... created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

(3) put on the _____

Where are we made new? In the attitude of our minds.

Physically, you are what you eat. Spiritually, you are what you think. Prov. 23:7

When putting off the old remember:

- NEVER try to put on the new _____ you've put off the old!

- The old sinful nature is _____

- I am _____ from the law

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“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has gone, the new has come!”

2 Cor. 5:17 (NIV)

“And now you are free from your old master, sin; and you have become slaves to your new master, righteousness.”

Rom. 6:18 (TLB)

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Rom. 12:2 (NIV)

“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”

Col. 3:2 (NIV)

When putting on the new remember:

- The Spirit has made us new already. You're not creating the new... *you're* just “putting on” God's creation.
- In order to put on the new I must recognize: I have a _____!

To Be Renewed Remember...

- I must stop being conformed to _____
- I must set my mind on _____

Ephesians 5 helps us to see that a key aspect of this inner renewal is the ability to see God's positive reasons for making a change. A renewed mind has the ability to see something the way that God sees it.

Put off the old self

Put off falsehood

In your anger do not sin...

Let him who steals steal no longer

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander...

Put on the new self

... speak truthfully to your neighbor

Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry...

... rather, he must work

... but only what is helpful for building up others...

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other...

Renewed in your minds

... for we are all members of one body

do not give the devil a foothold.

... that he may have something to share with those in need

... do not grieve the Holy Spirit

Just as in Christ God forgave you.

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