

Sermon Discussion Questions

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Burrell

Topic: Ephesians

Scripture: Ephesians 4:17-32

- Briefly summarize the main points of the sermon.
- What questions do you still have from today's sermon?
- Read Vv. Ephesians 4:17-19
 - What does Paul instruct the Ephesians not to do in verse 17? What does this command indicate about their former way of life?
 - How does Paul describe the mindset of the Gentiles in verses 17-18? What are the consequences of this mindset?
 - What is the result of being "alienated from the life of God"? (v. 18)
 - How does Paul describe the moral condition of the Gentiles in verse 19? What does their behavior reveal about their spiritual state?
 - In what ways can we, as believers, guard against adopting the "futility of their thinking" that Paul warns against? (See Romans 12:2.)
 - How can we ensure that our minds and hearts remain focused on the truth of God's Word instead of being influenced by worldly thinking? (See Colossians 3:2.)
 - How does recognizing the consequences of a life alienated from God motivate us to live out our faith more intentionally? (See Colossians 1:21-22.)
- Read Vv. Ephesians 4:20-24
 - What does Paul contrast in verses 20-21? How does he describe the new life they have "learned" in Christ?
 - In verse 22, what does Paul say believers should "put off," and what is the significance of this? How does this relate to the old self?
 - How does Paul describe the process of renewal in the believer's mind and spirit in verse 23?
 - What does it mean to "put on the new self," and how is this related to being created in the likeness of God? (v. 24)
 - How can we actively "put off" the old self and its practices in our daily lives? (See Romans 6:6-7.)
 - What does it mean to be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and how can we cultivate this renewal through prayer and Scripture? (See Titus 3:5.)
 - How does the concept of being "created in the likeness of God" impact how we live out the new self, particularly in areas like relationships, work, and character? (See 2 Corinthians 5:17.)
- Read Vv. Ephesians 4:25-32
 - What does Paul instruct believers to do in verse 25 regarding lying and speaking the truth? Why is this important in the body of Christ?
 - How does Paul address anger in verses 26-27? What does he warn against, and how can we apply this in our lives today?
 - In verses 28-29, what does Paul say about work, stealing, and speech? How should the new self influence our behavior in these areas?
 - What specific instructions does Paul give about kindness, forgiveness, and the role of the Holy Spirit in verses 30-32?
 - How can we cultivate honesty in our relationships and interactions, both inside and outside the church? (See Colossians 3:9-10.)
 - How can we handle anger in a way that is righteous and doesn't give the devil a foothold? (See James 1:19-20.)
 - What are some practical ways we can work honestly and use our words to build others up? (See Proverbs 12:18, Ephesians 4:29.)
 - How can we actively practice kindness and forgiveness in our relationships, especially when it's difficult? (See Colossians 3:12-13.)
 - What does it look like to grieve the Holy Spirit, and how can we prevent doing so in our daily lives? (See 1 Thessalonians 5:19.)