

Discussion Questions

Ephesians 4:17-24 - New Self. New Creation

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Ice Breaker (Optional. Take just a few minutes on this):

1. What's the oldest piece of clothing that you still wear? How old is it?

Reflecting on the Passage

1. Read Ephesians 4:17-24 aloud. What words, phrases or ideas catch your attention or raise a question for you?
2. What are the eight ways Paul describes the walk of Gentiles? (vss. 17-19) How do these apply to the lives of non-Christians today?
3. What three verbs does Paul apply to how a Christian acquires knowledge of Christ? (vss. 20-21)
4. What three principles are to govern the behavior of Christians? (vss. 22-24)
5. What similarities and differences are there between being "created in the likeness of God" in v.24 and being created 'in the image of God' in Genesis 1:27?
6. How would you describe righteousness in your own words? (v. 24) (hint: one easy way to describe it is "right-related-ness". How does this help? What relationship(s) does this refer to?)
7. How would you describe holiness in your own words? (v. 24) What does 1 Peter 1:13-16 tell us about what holiness looks like in our lives?

Reflecting on your Life

8. In the sermon, Pastor Paul offered three areas of life where we see examples of "deceitful desires," (relational, financial, familial). What other examples can you come up with? What are some examples of deceitful desires in your own life?
9. Why is it harder to put off certain parts of our old self as opposed to other parts? What are ways we can be more successful in "putting off" and "putting on"?
10. Oftentimes we are blind to our own sin and sinful practices (the old self). When was the last time you gave someone permission to speak into your life and point out ways you were still living your "old self"? How did that go? Did you change? Why/why not? If you've never done this, what would it take for you to do it?
11. What are ways you have sought to learn new habits of the heart as a way of putting on the new self?
12. If being renewed in the spirit of your mind is something only Jesus can do, what are ways you can make yourself more available to him in order for him to do that work?
13. What part of the Eustace story most grabbed your attention? (pp. 87-91 in the classic paperback version of The Voyage of the Dawn Treader)

Deeper into Scripture

14. What do the following passages tell us about being renewed as a follower of Jesus: John 8:31; John 13:35; John 14:26; John 15:8; Luke 9:23)

From the bulletin.... ***Kingdom Implications for Your Life:***

15. *What patterns of living your “old self” do you need to put off? Pray for renewal and awakening in your own life, in our life as a church family, and in the Upper Valley.*