

## A Life That Has Been Changed By Jesus

Ephesians 4:17-24 - 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.<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

<sup>20</sup> That, however, is not the way of life you learned <sup>21</sup> when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. <sup>22</sup> 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; <sup>23</sup> to be made new in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

## The Life That Rejects God

• **Rejecting God leads to a dark mind.** v 18

• **Rejecting God leads to hard heart.** v 18

• **Rejecting God leads to a sin-filled life.** v 19

**Sensuality = a complete absence of moral restraint**

**Greed = the desire to do whatever it takes to get what you want**

Romans 1:28-32 - Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done.<sup>29</sup> Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. <sup>30</sup> They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents.<sup>31</sup> They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. <sup>32</sup> They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

## The Life That Has Been Changed By Jesus

Ephesians 4:20-24 - That, however, is not the way of life you learned <sup>21</sup> when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. <sup>22</sup> 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; <sup>23</sup> to be made new in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

• **Letting Jesus change me begins in my thoughts.** v 23

- **My mind (thoughts) controls my heart (emotions) which controls my actions.**

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT) - I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. <sup>2</sup> Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 - The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.<sup>5</sup> We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

- **I think about Jesus and think like Jesus.**

Galatians 2:20 - I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

## Being Like God

"...put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." (v 24)

• **Righteousness = how I treat others** (Eph. 4:25-32)

• **Holiness = my aim is perfection in all that I do**

Matthew 5:48 – Jesus said, “You are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.