



# ephesians together

## Review

Initial comments, questions, and reactions about the sermon?

### Main Points:

1. **Change in mind:** Worldly thinking is futile, or pointless.
2. **Change in heart:** A heart motivated by the love of Jesus will change.
3. **Change in everything and in every way- how you live.** “Putting on” Jesus makes a difference.

## Reflect

Read Ephesians 4:17-32 aloud.

### Questions:

1. **Focus on verses 17-21.** Joe used the bicycle wheel to illustrate that things in the center of our lives affect our mind, heart, and identity. Being a high school basketball player should have been a spoke on his wheel, but he made it the hub because it made him feel like “somebody.” Then being a star made him feel like “someone special.” Being a captain made him feel “top of the heap” and being a state champion made him feel like “king of the world.” This lasted about 20 minutes until he realized he needed more. (a) In your own past, what things did you put in the center of your life that should have been a spoke? How did you figure that out? (b) How did it make you greedy for more, as Paul described it? (c) What things do we still tend to make the hub of our lives where Christ belongs?
2. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-4.** Joe told us about the time he put diesel fuel in a rental car that was made to run on gas. He said our heart was created to run on what we believe and what we believe motivates our heart and our actions. (a) What makes Christianity different from other religions and ethics? (b) What are some things we believe that have the same effect as putting diesel fuel in a gas-powered car? (c) What difference could the truth of the gospel make in these cases?
3. **Focus on verses 22-32.** In verses 22-24 Paul said that Christ can change what we want in our lifestyle, our desires, and our minds. Then in verses 25-32 he gets down to the nitty-gritty and talks about specific things to put off and put on. Joe said that Christ wants to open every door and every drawer of our lives and come in. What things on Paul’s list do you hesitate to let Him change? Why do you think these are still struggles?

## Respond

Application.

Joe posed the question- what would our community be like if God dropped a bunch of Jesus’ into it? Have each person think about 1-2 ways.

## Pray

Go around as a group and ask for prayer requests. Pray as a group together.

## Dig Deeper

If you have time.

The struggle and the victory of putting on Christ.

### Main Points:

1. Read Romans 7:15-20. Paul recognized how difficult it is to “put on” Christ since we have a sin nature. What do you notice about the struggle Paul describes and how it relates to Ephesians 4:17-32?
2. When we “put off” something bad it is important to replace it with something good. To do this, we need to make a decision, not just have willpower. Joe mentioned that 90% of New Year’s resolutions are broken within the first month. What difference does the cross make in the process of “putting off” and “putting on?” (See Romans 12:1-2 and Colossians 3:1-5 for additional insight.)
3. Re-read Ephesians 4:26-30. When we don’t “put away” sin, it affects both
4. the devil and the Holy Spirit. How does it affect each one? What is an example of this from the Bible (See Luke 22:55-62 for reference if needed)? What is an example of this in your own life and how did it affect your view of sin?

## Announcements

Please share with your group! Encourage them to visit the CCC website to sign up or to get more information

1. **CCC 101:** Another session of CCC 101 kicks off on November 7. To discover what that means, get familiar with our church doctrine, and become a member, find out more and sign-up at [ccchapel.com/CCC101](http://ccchapel.com/CCC101).
2. **Serve 101:** For current members of CCC, we have made the three parts of CCC 101 available to take separately, including Serve 101. **Serve 101** is designed to help people understand their wiring, passions, and gifts. We are going to be offering it 3 times on November 7, 14, and 28 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sign-up online. It’s a great application to today’s sermon.
3. **re | engage** has open sessions on the first Monday of the month. Join us for November 5 for all couples who want to invest in a marriage that will thrive. The group meets from 6:15-8 p.m. to hear testimonies and encourage one another through God’s word.

Don’t forget to edit a few scripture references in your devotional:

- p. 81 (week 7, day 4): James 5:7-8 should be James 4:7-8. The following question should include “James 4,” not “James 5.”
- p. 101 (week 9, day 4): Philippians 2:3-8 should be Matthew 19:4-9. The question following it is correct.
- p. 109 (week 10, day 2): Philippians 2:3-8 should be Genesis 3:1-21. The question following it is correct.