

Ephesians Part 11: The Dynamics of Change Part 2

Ephesians 4:25-32



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April 2, 2017

- ²⁵ *Therefore, having put away falsehood,
let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor,
for we are members one of another.*
- ²⁶ *Be angry and do not sin;
do not let the sun go down on your anger,
²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.*
- ²⁸ *Let the thief no longer steal,
but rather let him labor,
doing honest work with his own hands,
so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.*
- ²⁹ *Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths,
but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion,
that it may give grace to those who hear.
³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,
by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*
- ³¹ *Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away
from you, along with all malice.*
- ³² *Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you.*

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Last Time: God's Three-Part Process for Change (22-24)

- ²² *to put off your old self,
which belongs to your former manner of life
and is corrupt through deceitful desires,*
- ²³ *and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,*
- ²⁴ *and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God
in true righteousness and holiness.*
- a. **Put off:** *to put off the old self*
- You put off your old self like a piece of dirty old clothing
- b. **Put on:** *to be renewed in the spirit of your minds*
- True change is not just a change of behavior but a change of your mind from the world's thinking to God's thinking
- c. **Renew your Mind:** *to put on the new self*
- You put on the new self like fresh new clothing
 - You live according to your new identity in God's likeness

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1. Put off Falsehood, Put on Truth (25)

²⁵ *Therefore, having put away falsehood,
let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor,
for we are members one of another.*

- a. **Put off:** *therefore, having put away falsehood*
- b. **Put on:** *let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor*
- c. **Renew your Mind:** *for we are members of one another*
 - You are members of the same body of Christ, so you must not lie to one another

2. Put off Sin that Comes out of Anger, Put on Cool by Sunset (26-27)

²⁶ *Be angry and do not sin;
do not let the sun go down on your anger,
²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.*

- a. **Put off:** *Be angry and do not sin*

Note: Your anger often leads to sin because it causes you to speak and act before you think

 - Righteous Anger: There are times when your anger is righteous – for example anger about sin or injustice
 - But many times your anger is unrighteous and is due to pride, selfishness or not getting what you want
- b. **Put on:** *Do not let the sun go down on your anger*
 - Don't let anger linger past the day's end - don't sleep on it!
- c. **Renew your Mind:** *and give no opportunity to the devil*
 - When anger lingers it gives the devil opportunity in your life

3. Put off Theft, Put on Work (28)

²⁸ *Let the thief no longer steal,
but rather let him labor,
doing honest work with his own hands,
so that he may have something to share with anyone in need*

- a. **Put off:** *Let the thief no longer steal*
- b. **Put on:** *but rather let him labor, doing honest work...*
- c. **Renew your Mind:** *so that he may have something to share with anyone in need*
 - Instead of stealing for yourself, work to have enough to share with someone in need

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4. Put off Talk that Tears Down, Put on Talk that Builds Up (29-30)

²⁹ *Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths,*

*but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion,
that it may give grace to those who hear.*

³⁰ *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,
by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

a. **Put off:** *Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths*

- Corrupting talk = harmful speech that tears you and others down – abusive language, vulgar speech, slander

b. **Put on:** *but only such as is good for building up*

- *that it may give grace to those who hear*

c. **Renew your Mind:** *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption*

- Corrupt talk grieves the Holy Spirit, as it tears down the church instead of building it up

5. Put off Malice, Put on Forgiveness (31-32)

³¹ *Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.*

³² *Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

a. **Put off:** *Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.*

- Progression: bitterness -> rage -> anger -> clamor (shouting fight) -> slander -> malice

b. **Put on:** *Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another*

- Kindness, compassion, forgiveness

c. **Renew your Mind:** *as God in Christ forgave you*

- Remember that Jesus forgave you

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Your Response

1. Ask God to renew your mind to think like He does. Pray and read His Word to help in the process! Repent of any sin in your life.

2. ***Will you receive salvation in Jesus: a free gift of God, by faith?***

- *Believe in Jesus, and His death and resurrection*
- *Repent of your sin and place your trust in Jesus*
- *Commit to Jesus as Lord of your life*

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus Romans 3:23-24 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Ephesians Series: God's Purposes for You in Christ

March 19	Part 10: The Dynamics of Change Part 1
March 26	Guest: Aaron Naismith, Calvary Baptist Guelph
April 2	Part 11: The Dynamics of Change Part 2
April 9	Part 12: Walk as Children of the Light Part 1
April 13	Tenebrae Service 7:30pm
April 14	Good Friday Service 7pm
April 16	Easter Sunday Message

Questions for Reflection

1. What is God's Three part change process (See today's introduction)
2. Review the five "Put off/Put on" topics from today's message? What do you need to put off, put on and what new thinking does your mind need?
3. Why do you think 'renewing your mind' is so important for overcoming sin?
4. What can you do to put yourself in a place where God will renew your mind?
5. Have you responded to the God's grace in faith and repentance, trusting in Jesus Christ for forgiveness of sins, and eternal life? Why not do so today?

2 Cor. 6:2b *now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

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