

Lakeshore & Homestead
6-25-22
Ephesians Week 4b

***YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS — But I have never been big into fashion. I know, by the way I dress this may surprise you – but I have to admit it I true

ACTUALLY – The only reason I look as nice as I do ----- Is because my wife and my girls let me know when the clothes I am wearing — shouldn't be worn again.

BUT I LIKE IT – I will often say ----- Yes, but it is old, worn out and stained

Though at times I u a fight — I know I have to take off the old and put on the new

THIS IS WHAT PAUL CHALLENGES US TO DO

I. Believers are not to live like the world

Ephesians 4:17 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.

***GENTILES — A TERM FOR UNBELIEVERS ---- MANY OF THEM WERE GENTILES — BUT AFTER CONVERTING TO CHRIST ---- THEY WERE NOT TO LIVE LIKE THE FORMERLY DID

A. The world promotes empty thinking

17b - that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.

Futility – emptiness, useless, - minds the way we think

LIKE WITHOUT A REAL PURPOSE OR DIRECTION —

Doesn't mean that unsaved people don't live with a cause — some do ---- BUT IN GENERAL – MUCH OF THE WORLD LIVES A MEANINGLESS EXISTENCE

WHY??????

Ephesians 4:18a They are darkened in their understanding,

WHAT IS LIFE ABOUT?????

I Corinthians 15 — Paul addresses the worldly thinking – eat, drink and be merry — tomorrow we die

B. The world lives hardened and calloused

18b - alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. 19a They have become callous.

*****Again this doesn't mean that every unbeliever is hardened and want to hurt people — but the general thinking of that of the world is completely selfish ---- not really caring about others — or the thought that they are accountable to God

HARDNESS OF HEAR

*****WHEN WE WENT ON A MISSIONS TRIP TO KOSRAE MICRONESIA ----- MANY OF THE NATIVES THICK CALLUSES ON THEIR FEET – WALK ON CORAL

C. The world had given itself to impurity

19a and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity

*****MONEY AND SEX ===== TELL ME THOSE AREN'T GODS IN THE WORLD TODAY????

EVERYWHERE — ALMOST EVERY MOVIE, TV SHOW ADVERTISEMENTS –

----- PAUL DESCRIBED THOSE THINGS SAYING THEY ARE PART OF WHO WE WERE

----- Were not that — we are new and we need to . . .

II. Believers are to put on the new self

A. We are saved to live like Christ

Ephesians 4:20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!— 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus,

***THE MESSAGE OF JESUS ---- REPENT – TURN FROM YOUR WICKED WAYS

B. We need to take off the old self

Ephesians 4:22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,

****OLD SELF — BEFORE CHRIST — FORMER ----

******I DON'T LIKE SOME OF THE NEW ATHLETIC CLOTHES ARE MADE OUT OF. THEY ARE NICE FOR WORKING OUT ----- BUT THEY STINK WHEN YOU ARE DONE SWEATING IN THEM**

----- **Would it make sense for me after workout — to just put a new shirt over my old clothes?????**

C. We need to let the Spirit change the way we think

Ephesians 4:23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,

*****BEGINS WITH THE MIND ---- THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US A NEW WAY OF THINKING – RENEW – TO MAKE NEW*

*****WHEN I REPAIR AN IPAD — MANY CUSTOMERS AMAZED — LOOKS LIKE NEW AGAIN

HOW DOES THIS RENEWAL COME — FROM THE SPIRIT — THROUGH THE WORD

D. We need to seek after righteousness and holiness

24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

****OLD SWEATY GARMENTS — NEW ONES WASHED CLEAN

----- WE DO SOME AIR BNB RENTALS ---- IN fact, you may want to feel bad for my family because I even rent our house out at times – You may not realize this but even this weekend we were not in our home, but living at our campground.

I SPEND A LOT OF TIME – IN THE SUMMER — CHANGING SHEETS

III. Believers need to take off sin and put on righteousness

A. We should put off lying and put on truth

Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

***SAME BODY — PART OF EACH OTHER ---- BE KNOWN FOR HONESTY

*****WHY WOULD BE BE DISHONEST — ULTIMATELY WE DON'T TRUST CHRIST

B. We should put off anger and put on kindness

Ephesians 4:26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and give no opportunity to the devil.

*****VERY IMPortant verse — anger an emotion — do we dwell on it?

Ephesians 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

----- CAN'T HOLD ON TO THESE THINGS

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

*****I see this phrase ---- for several years in the HS a poster was hung that said - “Be Kind to each other” ---- gave credit for the phrase to Ellen Degeneres=--- there is some slight humor to this because she was actually accused of being very mean to workers on her show

THOSE WHO DON'T AGREE WITH YOU =— FORGIVE – HOW AS CHRIST FORGAVE YOU

C. We should put off stealing and put on giving

Ephesians 4:28 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.

***INSTEAD OF FOCUSED ON TAKING FOR SELF — FOCUSED ON GIVING TO OTHERS

GREAT JOYS IN MY LIFE THIS TIME OF YEAR — GIVE TO PASTORS AND THEIR FAMILIES – BOAT RIDES, CANOE TRIPS

D. We should put off hurtful speech and put on gracious speech

Ephesians 4:29 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.

----- TEARING OTHERS DOWN WITH OUR WORDS --

Stick and stones may break my bones words will never hurt me

*****When our speech hurts others — we grieve the Spirit of God

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

*****LIKE THE HOLY SPIRIT RIDING WITH YOU

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN WITH SOMEONE WHO SAID SOMETHING AND YOU WANTED TO JUST HIDE?????

*****I remember when Jen and I weren't even dating yet and I went out with her family for mother's day – her grandma and grampa were there – Her grampa turns to me and says – I hear your going to be the new grandson — Poor Jen --**

CONCLUSION

- Are you living like the world?
- Are you putting on the new self?
- Are you taking off sin and putting on righteousness?