

Application

4. We can think of Ephesians 4:20-24 and make up what engineers call a feedback system. If you drift away from the center, (the way of life you learn in Scripture) you need to make quick corrections to get back to the center as soon as possible. Putting off the old and putting on the new seems to be a continual thing, rather than a one-time decision. What are some practical things you can share with your group that help you get back toward what God created you to be?

5. Why do we need a new attitude in our minds? How much of this new attitude is God's work? How much depends on us?

ACCLIMATING TO FRESH AIR Ephesians 4:17-32

Self-centered, indulgence, pride and a lack of shame over sin are now emblems of the American lifestyle.

Billy Graham

Ephesians 4:17-19 A Christian's greatest threat is ignorance.

Ephesians 4:20-21 A Christian's true resource is Jesus

Ephesians 4:22-24 A Christian's best strategy is: to put off, to be renewed, and to put on.

Getting to Know You

1. In Ephesians 4:20, Paul calls the Ephesians to remember their first teaching about Christ. Share with the group some of the earliest things that you remember learning about him and how they still influence the way you live as a Christian.

Into the Bible

2. Futile thinking and darkened understanding may remind some of you of Romans 1. Paul speaks of futile thinking and darkened hearts in 1:21. Compare Romans 1:21-32 with Ephesians 4:17-20. Do they describe the same path? The same result?
3. Read Matthew 12:43-45. Jesus seems to be describing someone who puts off the old without putting on the new. How would obeying Ephesians 4:22-24 guard against that danger?