

Living Inside Out: The Christian Walk

“Too many of us are caught acting as Christians. The life of many Christians today is largely a pretense. They live a ‘spiritual’ life, talk a ‘spiritual’ language, adopt ‘spiritual’ attitudes, but they are doing the whole thing themselves. It is the effort involved that should reveal to them that something is wrong. They force themselves to refrain from doing this, from saying that, from eating the other—and how hard they find it all!” (Watchman Nee: *Sit, Walk, Stand*, pg. 39)

Text: Ephesians 4:17-32

Paul’s Points:

Identify _____ thinking.

Put on _____ like a set of new clothes.

Act based on your _____.

Ephesians 4:17-19: Don’t get _____ in gentile thought.

What is gentile thought?

It does not _____ God or _____. Romans 1:21

It trusts in _____ things. I Peter 1:18

_____ to the ways of the world. Ephesians 2:2-3

Consequences of gentile thought:

Futility

_____ from God’s life.

_____ in understanding.

Loss of _____ to right and wrong.

Full of _____.



Ephesians 4:20-24: Don't forget to _____ your clothes.

Believers are priests of Christ's new covenant: put on _____ clothing.
I Peter 2:5; Exodus 28:2,4

The changing of the priest's clothes was an outward expression of an inward change—the laying aside of the old manner of life. The special clothing of the priesthood signaled a change in their state of mind. Priests had a new purpose and a new identity.

The process is not a _____ activity. Colossians 3:20.

Ephesians 4:25-32: Be-act who you are _____.

Examples:

1. _____ lying. _____ truth. Ephesians 4:25.
2. Be _____. Do not sin. Ephesians 4:26, 31, 32.
3. Do not give the devil an _____. Ephesians 4:27; 2 Corinthians 2:10-11.
4. Use your time and energy not to take (steal) but to _____. Ephesians 4:28.
5. Do not use harmful words but rather words that _____.
Ephesians 4:29. Ecclesiastes 10:12.
6. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 4:30.

“There is something very touching in this admonition...It does not say, ‘Do not make him angry.’ A more delicate and tender term is used...for grief is a sweet combination of anger and of love...Love sweetens the anger, and turns the edge of it, not against the person, but against the offense.” C.H Spurgeon, 1859.

