

## FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

*EPHESIANS: Awake, O Sleeper - Ephesians 4:17-24 - Goodbye Futility; Hello Renewal! - 03.10.2024*

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?  
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. In our description today, we see a description that, among other descriptors, mentions that “they have become callous.”  
I shared about how calluses form, & though one of these words is a noun the other an adjective, they come from the same root.  
Have you ever had any calluses? If so, how did they form and how much time did it take?  
How does this relate to the process by which people become callous and what other factors play into this?  
How does becoming callous impact a person’s ability to feel and respond to sensations (specifically, spiritual matters)?  
Have you ever, even as a Christian, gone through seasons where you seem to feel nothing (exhibit a callousness)?  
What led to this callousness and what was your process to deal with this attitude in your heart?  
Are you currently in a season where you feel this is true of you? How is the Lord calling you to respond?
3. How does what’s written in Ephesians 4:17-24 relate to what’s been written in Ephesians 4:1-23 & the preceding chapters?  
How does the “walking” described in verse 17 relate to the “walking” described in verse 1?  
As you consider your own life prior to Christ, do you remember walking in the ways described in verses 17-19?  
As you think about people in your life who don’t follow Jesus, do you see the reality of these things taking place?  
*\*Sometimes it’s hard to see in those we know personally, but as we look at culture as a whole it may be easier to identify.*
4. How does the description of people in verses 20-24, reveal a completely different disposition than that of those in verses 17-19?  
How does an understanding of the “new self” (or literally, “new man”) change how we live our lives as those who are in Christ?  
What role does a right understanding of our identity play in how we live our lives?  
What difference does it make that the verbs in 20-24 aren’t commands for us but are descriptions of what already IS true of us?  
What does it look like practically that we no longer walk in the futility of our minds but to be renewed in the spirit?
5. Below are the “Today’s Takeaways” from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?  
***We are no longer to walk in worldly ways!***  
*Our faith in Christ leads us to live differently!*  
***By faith in Jesus, we have put off our old self!***  
*We are no longer identified by our sinful lives!*  
***By faith in Jesus, we have put on the new self!***  
*Our true identity is in Jesus & His righteousness*  
***We depend upon Jesus’ renewal of our minds!***  
*This is how we live in righteousness & holiness!*