



A View Of Both Sides Of The Cross

Series: Ephesians, #13

Ephesians 4:17-24

Pastor Lyle L. Wahl

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Theme: **Living worthy of your calling means a new lifestyle.**

The view of the old self before the cross.

1. The picture. (17; see also Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:17, 12:8)
2. The process.
(18-19, 22; see also 5:5; Romans 1:18-32; Galatians 6:8; Colossians 3:5-11)
3. The practice. (19; see also Romans 1:24-32)

The view of the new self after the cross.

1. The starting point: a decisive change.
(20-22, 24; see also Romans 6:4, 6, 14, 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Colossians 3:9-10; Hebrews 12:1)
2. The process: a progressive growth.
(23; see also John 17:17; Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 3:18)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. Read 4:17-24. In this section Paul emphasizes the importance of living worthy of our calling by sketching a contrast between the old and new, between what we were before Christ and what we now are in Him. Thank God that you are a new creation in Christ.

Tuesday. In verse 17 Paul sums up the thinking and life of every person without faith in Christ as futility. Despite all the good things one may do, apart from Christ we cannot fulfill the purpose for which we were created. Life ends up empty, worthless—like chasing after the wind. Thank God for being freed from this futility. How can this truth help you in your witness?

Wednesday. Paul highlights the process and practice of the old self in verses 18-19 and 22. Read Romans 1:18-23. This is a devastating, deadly vicious circle. Think of and list any specific things and ways you see in which you are still following the old self.

Thursday. The starting place to live worthy of your calling is to make a conscious and decisive change. Check the outline for the references and any notes you made on Sunday. Have you made the once for all time and all of your life commitment? The process of living this side of the cross is progressive growth. Check the outline and references. How are you progressing?

Friday – Saturday. Next Sunday we will take the first of two looks at *Practical Christianity* in 4:25-32. Read through these verses in preparation for our time together.