

*You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:20-24 (NIV)*

## Three Steps

I have come to think that the new life I have in you requires me to take three steps. **You have reduced your new life in me down to three steps?** I didn't devise this plan. I didn't make up these steps. They seem to be right here in your word. **So, you believe that you are on solid ground?** Yes, I do. **Let me hear your thoughts.** First, let me qualify a few points about these three steps. **Go right ahead.** I will never be finished taking these steps. I will need to keep on taking these steps every day as I follow you. At any time and in any order, I will need to frequently revisit these steps. **Are you done with your qualifiers?** Yes, for now, I think.

**What is the first step you must take if you want to live the new life you have in me?** I must put off my old life. I must turn away from my old life that was filled with deceitful and sinful practices. I must separate myself from evil of every kind. As part of putting off my old life, which could be called repentance, I will need to ask you to forgive and cleanse me of all my sin. I must allow you to be my Savior and Lord. I must receive your forgiveness and free gift of salvation. I must determine that I want to live my life with and for you. That is step one. **That is very good.**

**What is the second step you must take if you want to live the new life you have in me?** I must allow you to transform and renew my mind. Without a new mind, I would never be successful at leaving my old life behind. **What will I use to transform and renew your mind?** You will use your word to transform and renew my mind. You want me to let your word dwell in me richly. You want me to take your word deeply into my heart and mind and life. You want me to meditate on your word day and night. Your word will help me to think your thoughts. Your word will help me to speak your words. Your word will help me to do your deeds. To sum it all up, your word will help me to know and do your will as I allow you to transform and renew my mind. That is step two. **That is very good.**

**What is the third step you must take if you want to live the new life you have in me?** I must put on the new life I have in you. **What will that look like?** Well, that will be unfolding every day as I live my life with and for you. I know one thing for sure. **What's that?** My new life in you will include living in an intimate relationship with you. I will draw near to you. You will draw near to me. I will follow you to where you lead me. I will do whatever you ask of me. I will keep on taking all three of these steps as I love, follow and serve you. **That will be every good.**

*Lord, I will put off my old life. I will leave my old patterns and practices far behind me. Use your word to transform and renew my mind. Help me think your thoughts, speak your words and do your deeds. I will keep on putting on the new life I have in you. Amen*

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Put Off Your Old Self*

You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

NIV Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Put Off Your Old Self*

But that isn't what you learned about Christ. Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

NLT Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Put Away...Your Old Self*

That is not the way you learned Christ! For surely you have heard about him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus. You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

NRSV Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Strip Yourself Of Your Former Nature*

But you did not so learn Christ! Assuming that you have really heard Him and been taught by Him, as [all] Truth is in Jesus [embodied and personified in Him], Strip yourselves of your former nature [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from delusion; And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude], And put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image, [Godlike] in true righteousness and holiness.

AMP Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Lay Aside The Old Self*

But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

NASB Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Put Off Your Old Self*

But that is not the way you learned Christ!— assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

ESV Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Put Off Your...Former Conduct*

But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

NKJV Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Get Rid Of It*

But that's no life for you. You learned Christ! My assumption is that you have paid careful attention to him, been well instructed in the truth precisely as we have it in Jesus. Since, then, we do not have the excuse of ignorance, everything—and I do mean everything—connected with that old way of life has to go. It's rotten through and through. Get rid of it! And then take on an entirely new way of life—a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you.

MSG Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Throw Off Your Old Evil Nature*

But that isn't the way Christ taught you! If you have really heard his voice and learned from him the truths concerning himself, then throw off your old evil nature—the old you that was a partner in your evil ways—rotten through and through, full of lust and sham. Now your attitudes and thoughts must all be constantly changing for the better. Yes, you must be a new and different person, holy and good. Clothe yourself with this new nature.

TLB Ephesians 4:20-24

## **Becoming Like Christ** *Leave Your Old Self*

But what you learned in Christ was not like this. I know that you heard about him, and you are in him, so you were taught the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught to leave your old self—to stop living the evil way you lived before. That old self becomes worse, because people are fooled by the evil things they want to do. But you were taught to be made new in your hearts, to become a new person. That new person is made to be like God—made to be truly good and holy.

NCV Ephesians 4:20-24

# Put Off Your Old Self

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Becoming Like Christ** – Ephesians 4:20-24

**In Context:** *Read Ephesians 4*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:20-24 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

You, | however, | did not | come to know Christ | that way. | Surely you heard | of him | and | were taught | in him | in accordance with | the truth | that is | in Jesus. | You were taught, | with regard | to your former | way of life, | to put off | your old self, | which is | being corrupted | by its | deceitful desires; | to be | made new | in the attitude | of your minds; | and to | put on | the new self, | created | to be | like God | in true righteousness | and | holiness. Ephesians 4:20-24 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will put off my old life. I will leave my old patterns and practices far behind me. Use your word to transform and renew my mind. Help me think your thoughts, speak your words and do your deeds. I will keep on putting on the new life I have in you. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How has your life changed since you started following Christ as your Savior and Lord?

**What practices from your old life did you leave behind so you could put on your new life in Christ?**

How have you made a conscious effort to keep on distancing yourself from practices your old life?

What deceitful desires has the devil sometimes used to tempt you to return to your old life?

**Why must your mind be renewed if you want to put on the new life that you have in Christ?**

How has the Lord used His word to transform your mind so you can know and do His will?

**What practices have you put on so you could live the new life you have in Christ?**

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**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Put off your old life, be renewed in your mind, and put on your new life in Christ.

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**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to put off your old life, be renewed in your mind, and put on your new life in Him.

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**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are putting on the new life you have in Christ.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

# Put Off Your Old Self

# Ephesians 4

Year \_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_

## Journal

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

### What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

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### What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

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### Prayer Of Blessing

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*My you put off your old self, be renewed in your mind, and put on your new life in Christ.*

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### Prayer To Carry

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will put off my old self, be renewed in my mind, and put on my new life in you.*

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### What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

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### A Question To Ask God

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I put off my old self, be renewed in my mind, and put on my new life in you today?*

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