

# New Life in Christ (Ephesians 4:17-24)

*Intro:* Sam says that he was saved a long time ago, but his life never really changed. He tells his wife that no one is perfect, and people need to just "lighten up and give me a break". Does the Bible have anything to say to people like Sam?

## 1. Admonition: You've got to **CHANGE!** vs. 17-19

**Don't live like the unbelievers!**

- **THINK** differently. (vs. 17-18)
  - not in futility
  - not in darkness
  - not in ignorance
  - not in hardness and callousness of heart
  
- **BEHAVE** differently. (v. 19)
  - not in sensuality
  - not in impurity
  - not in greediness

## 2. Argument: Consider this!

**vs. 20-24**

**If you're really a Christian...**

You have **LAI D ASIDE** the old self. (v. 22)

You've been **RENEWED** unto true knowledge. (v. 23)

You've **PUT ON** the new self. (v. 24)

Salvation is deliverance from sin...its **PENALTY**, but also its **PREFERENCE** and its **POWER** and its **PRACTICE**.

**1 John 3:9 "No one who is born of God practices sin..."**

# New Life in Christ

## (CONNECT questions for 4/14)

--Read Ephesians 4:17-24

1. Consider 2 Cor. 5:17 *"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away. Behold, new things have come."*

What if the old things haven't really passed away, and new things are

slow in coming? **Is there such a thing as a "carnal Christian"?**

Refer to 1 Cor. 3:3 and Rom. 8:7.

(note: carnal= Gr. *sarkinos*= of the flesh; natural or unempowered man)

If your answer is yes, how would you describe such a person?

If your answer is no, how would you describe such a person?

2. Consider Mark 1:15 *"repent, and believe in the gospel."*

How do you know if someone (including yourself) is really born again?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Matt. 10:32,33
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Cor. 5:17
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 John 3:14; 4:7-8
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 John 3:9,10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rom. 8:16; 1 John 4:13
- \_\_\_\_\_ Heb. 12:5-6, 8
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Pet. 2:2
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