



Understanding Who I Am

Ephesians

Becoming Who We Are

Putting on Christ

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



Ephesians so far...

⇒ Understanding who I am

⇒ Becoming who we are

⇒ Previously in Ephesians...

⇒ Paul shifts gears in Chapter 4... “Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.”

⇒ Paul calls believers to obedience and to watch out for drift towards our former lives

⇒ Imagery of changing clothes

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2...

²⁵ Therefore, putting away lying, “*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*” for we are members of one another. ²⁶ “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, ²⁷ nor give place to the devil. ²⁸ Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. ²⁹ Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2...

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³² And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

¹ Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ² And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



A Word of Caution...

- ➡ Paul is not advocating behavior modification, but rather a change that originates in one's heart
- ➡ Jesus said that “out of the outflow of the heart, the mouth speaks”
- ➡ Dallas Willard... *The Great Omission*
“Behaviour is driven by the hidden or secret dimension of human personality, from the depths of the soul and body, and what is present there *will* escape.”

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



Put Off...

- ➡ Falsehood
- ➡ Sinful Anger
- ➡ Theft (stop being a taker!)
- ➡ Corrupt Talk & Tearing Down

Put On...

- ➡ Truth
- ➡ Meekness
- ➡ Honest Work & Generosity
- ➡ Blessing, Grace & Building up

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



“Do not grieve the Spirit...”

- ➡ *To willfully choose to throw off Christ and put on your old self (old way of life)*
- ➡ *This act of rebellion against Christ and our new identity in him is very serious*
- ➡ *To hear the word but not do it is a serious offense against the Spirit who dwells within you*

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



Dallas Willard... *The Great Omission*

“There is no question of whether doing is purely on our own. But we must act. Grace is opposed to earning, not to effort. And it is well-directed, decisive, and sustained effort that is the key to the keys of the kingdom and to the life of restful power in ministry and life that those keys open to us.”

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



Put Off Anger's Cousins...

- ➞ Bitterness
- ➞ Wrath (explosive rage)
- ➞ Anger (smoldering hostility)
- ➞ Clamor (angry yelling or shouting)
- ➞ Slander (abusive language)
- ➞ Malice

Put On Christ...

- ➞ Kindness
- ➞ Tender-heartedness (compassion)
- ➞ Forgiveness

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



The Power of a Church Clothed with Christ...

The call from Paul to walk in a manner worthy of the calling is not just so we're nice to each other and enjoy being together. Paul is fully aware of the power and impact that a body of believers who have thrown off their old ways and have embraced Christ has on the community they live in.

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



The Power of a Church Clothed with Christ...

1. Impacts the world around them

➞ Dallas Willard

“The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heartbreaking needs, is whether those who, by profession or culture, are identified as ‘Christians’ will become disciples – students, apprentices, practitioners – of Jesus Christ, steadily learning from him how to live the life of the Kingdom of the Heavens into every corner of human existence.”

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



The Power of a Church Clothed with Christ...

1. Impacts the world around them
2. Takes the “one anothers” seriously
 - ➡ Fragmented lives... this is why intentionally living in community is so important
 - ➡ Attending a service once a week is not what Christ desires for his church... We are to participate in his mission
 - ➡ Sundays need to be a time where we get filled up and sent back out into the world for Christ

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2... Putting on Christ



The Power of a Church Clothed with Christ...

1. Impacts the world around them
2. Takes the “one anothers” seriously
3. Lives in the fullness Christ promises

➡ John 10:10... The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy, but I have come that you might have life and have it to the full

➡ God desires us to have a full life but it can only come through him and his way

➡ The outcome... A pleasing aroma to God!