



This week we continue with part three of Pastor Tim's message series, "Deconstruction/Reconstruction of the Disciples Life". Last week, we learned the characteristics of being "gentile-like". The text for our study this week comes from Ephesians 4:20-24 and Paul is calling us to be "Christ-like" and we will begin to start the "reconstruction" phase of our spiritual remodeling project.

Group Study Questions

1. Begin by asking someone in your group to read Ephesians 4:20-24.

Ephesians 4:20-24 ESV

²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ! ²¹ - assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

2. How would you describe Paul's tone in verse 20? To what is he referring?

HINT!

Many times when we see the word "but" in scripture there is a change in contrast in the text. So we should always back up and see what the author was writing about in the verses previously to gain a proper context of the passage. In this case, see verses 17-19.

3. Paul makes an assumption of his audience (the church in Ephesus). What are the three parts of this assumption?
4. Why can Paul make this assumption with church of Ephesus?

INTROSPECTION: *Can the same assumption be made of you? Does your life reflect someone who knows Christ?*

Three Absolutes of the Believer

#1 I put off the actions of the old self (v.22)

5. Define the “old self”. What is it we are supposed to put off when we become followers of Jesus? See Colossians 3:1-10 and discuss.
6. Pastor Tim used illustration that our “old self” was taken off of us like an old filthy coat. We don’t want to wear it anymore. The proof of this is our response when we do sin. How do you feel when you sin? What do you want? Read 2 John 1:9. Is that passage comforting? Discuss.

#2 I renew the spirit of my mind (vs. 23)

7. In verse 23, Paul is telling us that we must be constantly renewing our mind. How do we do that? Look up and read Colossians 3:16 and discuss how this will help your mind be continually renewed.
8. Is it possible to grow in your faith without being in God’s word? Why or Why not?

INTROSPECTION: *How much time are you spending in God’s word? Is that enough? Where can you go for help if you don’t know how to get started? Can your small group be helpful in holding on another accountable in this area?*

