

Sermon Notes

Enter In Part 3: New Life in Christ

December 16th – December 17th, 2023

- **Part 3: New Life in Christ**
- Even if you know that God likes you and you have heard from God in some ways, there can be a road block that keeps you from fully realizing what **Ephesians 4:22-24** is talking about.
- Today we talk about Entering In to New Life in Christ!
 - o John and Peter call it being “born again.” Paul talks about the old becoming new.
- You can have religion, theology, rules, etc. but still miss this. Let’s Enter In to New Life in Christ!
- Let me give you three steps to fully Entering In to New Life in Christ.
- 1) Be made new in the spirit of your minds. **Ephesians 4:23**
 - o Translated here as “attitude.” Reasonable enough I guess, but it is the word for “spirit.”
 - It is an attitude shift for sure, but there is an essential spiritual component behind it.
 - o For some this seems to happen effortlessly when they come to believe in Jesus.
 - o For others this can be a battle.
 - o I think for everyone there is growth over time in this area as well as the miraculous change.
- If your inner kingdom has changed, it will show itself in your outer kingdom (Dave Williams).
- 2) Start living right! **Ephesians 4:17-32**
 - o Lots of stuff in here about our personal behavior. And it keeps going into Chapters 5 and 6!!
 - o Why?? Because if the spirit of your mind is no longer selfish, hateful, and dark, you will start living a different way!! **Matthew 22:36-40**
 - But, as we all know, this can be a challenge too.
 - Sometimes people are just still selfish and undisciplined...but then...
 - What’s that deal about the devil getting a foothold?? **Ephesians 4:26-27**
 - Our inner kingdom can be doing pretty good, but there’s that spot...
 - o Could be from trauma, sin, lies believed, etc. Unresolved conflict in this case.
 - The enemy has his claws in there. You have to find it and get it out.
 - o Usually twisted, like you blame the wrong thing for your drinking, anger, etc.
- There is one more step necessary to fully Enter In to New Life in Christ.
- 3) Figure out who God made you to be and be that!! **Ephesians 4:1-16 (emphasis v7-8, v11-12)**
 - o Rise Up – Out of what has been pulling you down Into who God created you to be!
 - o You have spiritual gifts from God to be used to build the church into something truly special!
 - o True for your vocation too.
 - The 5-fold ministry gifts...and spiritual gifts for everyone in the Body of Christ.
 - If you are called to be a truck driver or a poet, then be that!!! Or Both!!!!
 - My fear, that there are good Christian people who feel pressured to be something they were not ever meant to be.
 - o I give you permission (men especially??) to honestly find your Holy life plan, whatever it is!!
 - We need believers everywhere!!
 - We need your spiritual giftings in the church used in a sustainable frequency.
- Closing Scripture **Ephesians 3:14-19 (emphasis v16-17)**
 - o Maybe you never knew you could be a truck driver or a poet for Jesus.
 - It’s time to embrace who you are and make it part of your New Life in Christ.
 - It’s time for you to use your spiritual gifts to strengthen the Body of Christ.
 - o Maybe you let the devil’s foothold disqualify you from your calling or mess up your life.
 - It’s time to get free and get on the road to meeting your full potential in Christ.
 - o Maybe you never invited Jesus into your heart so you could be made new in the spirit of your mind.
 - It’s time to invite Jesus in to bring healing, freedom, peace and love to your inner kingdom.
- Get prayer by emailing the prayer team: prayer@goodhope.ag