

Small Group Study Guide- Ephesians 4:17-24
The Gospel Unleashed Part Eight

"Unity without the gospel is a worthless unity; it is the very unity of hell."

- J. C. Ryle

1) Example One: Those who DO NOT belong to Jesus Christ! (Eph. 4:17-19)

- Think about your life before Christ and your life in Christ, what is the difference? How would you explain this to someone who does not know Jesus Christ as Savior?
- What does it mean to “miss the mark” (Rom. 3:23)? How can we help people understand that we all miss the mark and need Jesus? (Eph. 2:8-10)
- Look at John 1:1-18. What contrasts exist between the saved and lost? What ways is this explained? How does God save mankind? Why would some not embrace salvation? Bearing in mind “lovers of darkness,” how does Paul explain this in Ephesians 4:17-19?
- 2 Peter 2:1-3 speaks of those to teach and/or encourage darkness. How do we contrast this with 1 John 1:7?

2) Example Two: Those who BELONG to Jesus Christ! (Eph. 4:20-24)

- “But you DID NOT learn Christ that way”! How might we contrast 2 Peter 2:1 with what Eph. 4 teaches about sound and/or godly leadership? How vital is discipleship in our spiritual formation?
- What does it look like to “put off your old self”? How does our flesh deceive us and make false promises? Knowing this, why is it still hard to rise above sin? How do we succeed at this? (Romans 8:37-39)
- Explain being “renewed in the spirit of your minds.” Contrast with Romans 12:1-2 and share your thoughts as a group. Now, read Romans 12:3-8, do you think it’s a coincidence that grace gifts follow renewal in Christ?
- Define true righteousness and holiness?