

Changing Direction

Ephesians 4:17-24

¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹ Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. ²⁰ That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

..... **following Jesus, 4:17-19**

Instead of using "I'm only human" as an excuse to walk in the flesh, try using as a reason to walk in the Spirit.

Live in such a way that those who don't know God but do know you, will come to know God because they know you.

Rules we must live by:

1. All actions have consequences, and these may have a lasting impact on the rest of your life.
2. There is no 'undo', 'reset', or 'edit' button in life.
3. You are the one and only person who is responsible for your actions.
4. You are free to choose whatever action you want to take, but you are not free from the consequences.
5. Doing nothing is an action.

..... **following Jesus, 4:20-24**

Back to 4:20-22a

Dress for 4:22-24a

Be the you 4:24

The within me

My prayer priorities for this week

For personal reflection, discussion and prayer

1. Why are Before and After photos helpful? What differences would people see if you showed them a photo of yourself from 25 years ago? What is a change that is not obvious from the photo?
2. What is different about you, or about church, since you began attending LifeChurch Panania? What are some qualities of our church that you most appreciate? Can you genuinely say, 'I went to church on Sunday. It was great!'?
3. Either: what is something that is no longer in your life; or what is something you have added to your life, since you started seriously following Jesus? What is a further change that you think God wants to see in you?
4. Reluctance to follow Jesus is never a Head problem, it is ultimately a Heart problem. What are the 3 most common excuses people give for ignoring Jesus, and what answer might move that excuse from a 'Head-to-Head argument' to a 'Heart-to-Heart discussion'?
5. What are the school-type words in Ephesians 4:20-22a? How can you help someone learn about Jesus - not just in a schoolish way of knowing? What do you know about Jesus that is important to you?