

## Ephesians 4:17-32

**Pray; Read Ephesians 4:17-32**

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. Ephesians 4:17-32 has been divided into 2 sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

**Verses 17-24**

**Verses 25-32**

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **At a Glance Chart**.

Now record a title for the fourth chapter of Ephesians.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

*God, Jesus, Spirit*; Term of conclusion: *therefore*; Contrast: *but*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Ephesians 4:17-32. Remember, as you mark the words, *God* and *Jesus*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them.

3. This portion of Scripture lists specific behaviors we are to *put off* and *put on*. The negative behaviors are indicated by words or phrases such as *no longer*, *put off*, *put away*, and *let no*. The positive behaviors are indicated by words or phrases such as *put on*, *be*, and *rather*. In a different way (perhaps by underlining, circling, or highlighting), mark the negative and positive behaviors.
  - a.) List below the behaviors we are to *put off* and those we are to *put on*.

Put Off	Put On
Walking as the rest of the Gentiles (17)	Being renewed in the spirit of your mind (23)

4. Most of those Paul was writing to in Ephesus were Gentiles; he refers to their old manner of life in Ephesians 4:17 and 18. How did Paul describe *the rest of the Gentiles*?
  - a. What does Psalm 94:11 say about *the thoughts of man*?
  - b. What two reasons are given for their *alienation from God*? See Ephesians 4:18
5. Read Ephesians 4:19. What is the emotional consequence of their *ignorance and blindness of heart*?
  - a. Describe what it means to be *past feeling*?
  - b. What is the result of *being past feeling*? verse 19
6. As the contrasting word *but* changed everything in Ephesians 2:4, here again (Ephesians 4:20) God shows the power of His intervention in our lives. What does this verse say?
  - a. What should we have *learned* according to Titus 2:11,12?
  - b. What are a few things you have *learned* from Christ?
7. How does Ephesians 4:24 describe the *new man*?
  - a. Why does Titus 2:14 say that Jesus *gave Himself for us*?
    - 1.) How does Ephesians 2:10 parallel this thought?

8. Ephesians 4:25 gets specific. It begins with the word *therefore*. *Therefore*, (because) we are to change from the behaviors of the *old man* to the behaviors of the *new man*, there are some specific things that must be different. What is the specific change?

a. What is the reason given as why we are not to *lie* but to *speak truth*?

1.) Why should the goal of *unity* encourage us to *speak truth* to one another?

9. Ephesians 4:26,27 should be studied together. What does verse 26 tell us to do?

a. What can we learn about the proper response to anger from:

Ephesians 4:26b

Romans 12:19-21

James 1:19

b. Explain, as you understand it, how the Lord would have us respond when we are angry.

c. According to Ephesians 4:27, what can happen if we do not respond to anger as God would have us to?

10. What change does Ephesians 4:28 address?

a. What kind of *work* are we to do?

1.) How do you determine if the *work* you do is *good* or not?

b. What is one reason we are to *labor, working with our hands what is good*?

11. *Lying, anger, stealing...* you may feel like you aren't doing that bad as far as *putting off* the old behaviors. Ephesians 4:29 may hit a little closer to home. What does it say?
  - a. What are the two rules of speech according to this verse?
  - b. How should we be applying this as far as the everyday use of our mouths?
  
12. As we examine some of the attitudes and actions we are to *put off* and *put on*, we discover in verse 30 that we affect God as well as others. What did Paul warn against in this verse?
  - a. What is your reaction when you think about the fact that you can *grieve the Holy Spirit*?
  
13. Name the six sins of Ephesians 4:31
  - a. How much of these sins are we to *put off*?
  
14. From verse 32, what three virtues are we to *put on* to replace the attitudes/behaviors of verse 31?
  - a. Who is our example?
  - b. How does *putting on* these virtues eliminate the sins of Ephesians 4:31?
  
15. Since becoming a Christian, what old habits have you discarded?
  - a. What is the first change you remember?

16. What advice would you give to a Christian who is frustrated with the "wrappings" of the *old man*?
17. How have you been challenged this week to not only *put off* the old behaviors, but to *put on* the new ones?

Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness;  
He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

A good man deals graciously and lends;  
He will guide his affairs with discretion.

- Psalm 112:4-5