

BE DIFFERENT

By Rev. Victor Ramoy | Ephesians 4:17-32

DISCUSS

Our actions and behavior, whether intentional or unintentional, makes a difference to people around us. As believers, we are called to make a difference for Christ, to be the salt and light of this world in order to win more people for Christ. How can we be different so that we can make a difference to our family, the community, the church, and the people around us? Read Ephesians 4:17-32.

Say no to ungodliness (v. 17-19)

- How should God's people live differently from the world according to the apostle Paul?
- For what reason did he say that the Ephesian Christians should no longer walk as the Gentiles walk (or live)?
- How do the key words, "uncleanness," "greediness," and "lewdness" that describe the lifestyle of the ungodly in verse 19 and in Romans 1:21-31 resonate to the world today?
- What happens when people reject God?
- Do you say no to ungodliness that you used to do? How?

Do what is righteous and holy over what is customary and convenient (v. 20-24)

- What is the ongoing spiritual battle within you?
- Share examples of spiritual battles that Christians go through. If you have Christ in your life already, why do you still go through these? Discuss.
- What is sanctification? How can you live a sanctified life (v.22,23 and Romans 12:2)?

- How can you renew your mind according to 2 Timothy 3:16?

Give others a Christ-like treatment (v. 25-32)

- From these verses, what are the action points that you can live out immediately as you try to renew your minds to think like Christ?
- Which among the behaviors mentioned do you need to change in your own life? What should you do to have victory over these negative things?
- How have you been demonstrating your new nature in Christ? Do you notice the difference it makes in your life? How about in other people's lives?

REFLECT

Ask yourself, "How can I make a difference today?" Think of ways you can show your new nature to your family members, friends, co-workers, or fellow students. Would people outside the church notice the presence of Christ in your life?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You so much for such a good reminder of how I should live my life as Your child. May You give me the ability to say no to ungodliness, the ability to do what is righteous and holy over what is customary and convenient, and the ability to give others a Christ-like treatment. Thank You that through the Holy Spirit, these are possible. Thank You for the new nature that I can live out because of You. In Jesus name. Amen.