

DIGDEEPER

February 21, 2016

Putting Off and Putting On by Dr. Richard Rogers

Ephesians 4:21-24 ([Listen Online](#))

THE BIG IDEA

Knowing Jesus changes everything. The Christian life requires that we put to death our old way of living and put on a new way with new aims, attitudes, and actions. This requires a daily enabling of the Spirit that fuels effort on our part, and it begins in our minds. Paul encourages the Ephesians (and us!) to get serious about being remade in the image of God displayed perfectly in Christ.

START A CONVERSATION (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, co-workers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, [tell us about it.](#))

What is something about you that you'd like to see change?

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- What are some of the places people turn to in order to know what's true?
- How is the Christian mind renewed?
- What is "the new self" that Paul mentions in v. 24? How do you know?
- Richard mentioned that the way we live must match the reality of who we are. In what ways do your daily habits and attitudes not reflect the reality of who you are in Jesus?

GO DEEPER

- Ephesians 4:21 says "truth is in Jesus." In a brief article, Randy Alcorn [helps define truth](#) and explain how the truth can be contained in a person.
- If living a new life in Christ means putting to death old ways, how can you do that? Here's a helpful two-part series on how to kill sin. [Part One](#) | [Part Two](#)
- Paul Washer helps explain how the first step in the renewing your minds is to [repent of sinful, wrong ways of thinking](#) about God and yourself. These twelve minutes are an excellent explanation of the gospel and helpful in knowing that your salvation is sure.
- When your old self speaks lies about your nature or circumstance, you must know how to respond. Christina Fox outlines [how to speak the truth to yourself](#).

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

Outside of the salvation secured for you by Jesus at the cross, there is absolutely no hope of ever being made new. If you "have heard him and been taught in him," spend time before God considering that act of his grace in your own life and thanking him for the way he replaced your heart of stone with a heart of flesh. Ask him to give you opportunity to share that story with someone this week.

If you've never encountered the powerful and transforming grace of God in your own life, we would love to talk with you about that. Visit uhbc.net/nextstep to begin the conversation.