

Today's passage reminds us that we need to be renewed in Christ. Look at verses 23-24, which conclude today's passage: "Be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." Putting on new clothes signifies the renewal of the spirit. Verses 17-19 vividly describe the hearts of those living without God before knowing Jesus. The word "heart" is emphasized throughout, describing vanity, ignorance, stubbornness, indulgence in impurity and greed. To move away from such a life and live a new one in Christ, a change of heart is necessary. So how do we shed our old hearts and put on the new clothes of Christ?

Firstly, we need to learn from the Word (verses 20-21).

Verses 20-21 emphasize the importance of hearing, being taught, and learning from the Word. It points out that merely attending church doesn't bring about a change of heart. Transformation happens when we learn about Christ through His Word and live out our faith in Him. By listening to, reading, studying, meditating on, and memorizing the Word, we come to know Jesus and experience the leading of the Holy Spirit. This leads to a transformation of our hearts.

Secondly, we need the renewal of the Holy Spirit (verse 23).

The second essential for renewing our hearts is the work of the Holy Spirit. Our hearts cannot be renewed on their own; we need to grasp the source of the power to give us a new heart. God desires to give His people new hearts, and He sent the Holy Spirit to accomplish this. Verse 23 speaks of being renewed in the spirit, indicating a passive action, showing that it is the Spirit who renews our hearts. As we yield to the Holy Spirit, our souls are transformed, and we should daily seek a heart like Jesus', filled with the Spirit's guidance.

Thirdly, a decision of faith is necessary (verses 22, 24).

The final requirement for a new heart is a decisive commitment. Verses 22 and 24 instruct us to "put off your old self" and "put on the new self," commanding us to take action and make decisions. Mere desires and thoughts won't bring about change; it's when we take action that change occurs. Therefore, we must not only listen to the Word but also make concrete decisions and actions to put on the new self.

Bible Memorization

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:2)

Bible Reading

4/29(Mon)	4/30(Tue)	5/1(Wed)	5/2(Thur)	5/3(Fri)	5/4(Sat)	5/5(Sun)
1 Kings 15-17	1 Kings 18-19	1 Kings 20-21	1 Kings 22	2 Kings 1-4	2 Kings 5-6	2 Kings 7-8

QT

Quiet Time Passage

4/29(Mon)	4/30(Tue)	5/1(Wed)	5/2(Thur)	5/3(Fri)	5/4(Sat)	5/5(Sun)
1 Kings 11:14-25	1 Kings 11:26-43	1 Kings 12:1-11	1 Kings 12:12-20	1 Kings 12:21-33	1 Kings 13:1-10	1 Kings 13:11-24

Sharing Questions

1. Share any insights or blessings you received from today's passage.

2. Discuss specific actions (such as studying the Word, praying, making decisions) you can take to put on the new self.

3. Pray for each other to be clothed with the new self in Christ.