

# Renovation of the Heart, Part 6

## Taking Off the Old, Putting On the New

**Ephesians 4:17-32**

### Key Verse

"You were taught... to put off your old self... to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." — Ephesians 4:22-24

## Blueprint for Renovation

### DEMOLITION (The Lie)

**I am my past.**

Many of us carry old identities, old failures, old wounds, and old patterns of thinking. We believe that what we have done—or what has been done to us—defines who we are. Paul challenges this lie by reminding believers that their former way of life no longer has authority over them.

**Truth to Remember:** Your past may explain part of your story, but it does not determine your identity.

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### FOUNDATION (The Truth)

**You are a new creation in Christ.**

Through Jesus Christ, we are given a new identity. We are no longer defined by sin, shame, success, failure, or the labels of the world. We belong to Christ and have been made new.

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

**Truth to Remember:** Who Christ says you are is more important than who your past says you are.

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### REBUILD (The Process)

**Put off the old self. Put on the new self.**

Renovation requires intentional participation. Paul teaches that followers of Jesus are called to:

- Put off old patterns and behaviors.
- Allow the Holy Spirit to renew their minds.
- Put on a new way of living shaped by Christ.

The Christian life is not simply avoiding sin; it is actively becoming more like Jesus.

Put Off	Put On
Falsehood	Truth
Sinful Anger	Reconciliation
Stealing	Generosity
Harmful Speech	Encouragement
Bitterness	Forgiveness

**Truth to Remember:** A renewed life begins with a renewed mind.

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## RENOVATION (The Result)

**A Renovated Heart lets go of the old way of living and cultivates a new God-centered life.**

As we surrender old identities and embrace our new life in Christ, our hearts begin to reflect His character. We become people marked by truth, kindness, compassion, generosity, and forgiveness.

The goal is not merely behavior modification. The goal is heart transformation.

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## Reflection Questions

1. What part of your past are you most tempted to let define you?
  2. Which of the "put off" behaviors in Ephesians 4:25-32 stands out most to you right now?
  3. How is the Holy Spirit inviting you to renew your thinking?
  4. What would it look like to live more fully from your identity as a new creation in Christ?
  5. Where do you sense God inviting you to put on a new Christ-centered habit or attitude this week?
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## Suggested Next Step

Spend five minutes each morning this week praying:

**"Holy Spirit, help me take off the old self and put on the new self today. Renew my mind and help me live from my identity in Christ."**

Then ask: **"What is one old pattern I need to surrender today, and what Christ-centered habit should I put on instead?"**