

# LIVING AS A CHRISTIAN TODAY

## RECAP

For the first week, Ivan touched on predetermination and free will from Ephesians 1  
Then Ryan took the second chapter and shared about ontological inversion, looking at the world through the eyes of God.

Last week David shared about being an authentic Christian.

## TITLE SLIDE

This week, I am going to share about Living as a Christian today from Ephesians chapter 4. I am going to talk about People of the Same Faith, about the do and don'ts from the bible as well as how do we live our day to day live, the things we do and say in front of our none Christian friends, those of the other kind.

Don't get me wrong, I am not labeling them as bad or anything, I am highlighting a need for us to reach out to them.

## SLIDE 3

This is the key verse I would like everyone to put it at the back of your head as you listen to my sharing.

Paul started chapter 4 with this sentence.

If we were to look at the whole book of Ephesians as a letter, there won't be any chapters. But just paragraphs and punctuation to denote the start of a new point.

Imagine this, the previous few chapters he has stated what many bible scholars has believed as doctrinal truths and now he is telling them how to apply the truths in their lives.

first, you're chosen by God, then this is how God would see things... etc.....

## WITH PEOPLE OF THE SAME FAITH

As last week David has shared with us that we should be humble, patient and bearing one another in love.

As you can see, it must come from love if not it is very hard to humble by putting others first and patient in giving people the second chance.

In the pagan world at that time it was distasteful for a person to be humble, it is seen to be good to be the No.1.

The reason why I made **KEEP** in Caps is because I would like to highlight the fact that we should not be creating unity by our own efforts. What we should really do about unity is to keep and preserve the unity that God has already established.

The work of the cross, that we could live in peace and love with all men.

After all, we all belong to the same Lord, the same Christian faith, one God and the Father who loves us.

## WITH PEOPLE OF THE OTHER KIND

After talking about living with the body of Christ, Paul then move on to the people outside of the church.

As he moves on into a new topic, he starts with the negative side of the story. He went on to talk about how he sees the Gentiles outside of the church living their lives.

(Scroll through the phrases from v17 to v 20)

Paul was striking a comparison between an extreme sinful life, he stated the worst case scenario that any christian would have been caught up in.

And after which he begins to states his learning points, "you were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self"

He started a things to do for a new life.

## HOW SHOULD WE DO IT?

(Read from the List)

- ▶ Speak truthfully to his neighbour
- ▶ In your anger do not sin- you keep your anger for an extra day, you are giving the devil an opportunity.
- ▶ No unwholesome talk, only what is helpful for building others
- ▶ Do not grieve the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Get rid of bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.
- ▶ Be kind and compassionate to one another
- ▶ Forgiving each other

It may seem a lot of things that we should do in order to be living as Children of Light. However, I would like to draw your attention to verse 28.

## LESSONS FROM MR. THIEF

Paul uses the thief to illustrate the impact repentance has on a person. Repentance involves the stopping of the negative actions and the start of something positive. The thief stopped stealing and start doing something honest, stealing came from laziness and greed and the repentant thief soon display the opposite, diligence at labour and willingness to share.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

If we do the things that our non christian friends do, what difference are we from them? The bible has mentioned so many times that we're a new creation in Him, why do we still struggle with sins? Have we been obedient to the calling?

## CARTOON

Many times we have bent to rules to suit our needs.

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

Sometimes we know certain words have negative meaning to it, yet we replace it with something else and use it.

For example, words like damn, freak and shingz?

I know this is going to be difficult but if we were to put off our old self and allow God to transform us, shouldn't we be moving away from our old self and conducting ourselves in a manner that is holy in front of our friends?

If our God is a holy God and He has began His work in us, is there still room for us to take part with unwholesome talk or words that we eagerly use to express a certain degree of things?

Are there bitterness in your heart, have you been unhappy with anyone and been harbouring that negative feeling within you?

Bitterness is the first that Paul listed in v31, and he said " Get rid of ALL bitterness", bitterness usually will lead to other sins, have we been able to release it to God?

Have we been a good testimony as a Child of God wherever we been placed?

how can we help one another as a body of Christ be a better testimony for our non christian friends?

cell leaders i may need your help in this, later, perhaps you can....