

...the main points again

Behaving as if the world has changed

When in the Kingdom, do as...

A lesson from Worzel Gummidge

...the importance of having the right head on

The folly of a Gentile head- futile thinking

Callused thinking growing from being disconnected from God

An undiscovered Jane Austen novel; *Insensitivity and Sensuality*

The short-sightedness of no limits living cf. Romans 1.28

A letter written to Christian believers who don't want to do it like that

Learning Jesus- a new way to think

A new outfit, cf. Isaiah 63.3,

*...a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.*

To change or to be changed that is the question

Repentance and *metanoia* (a change of mind)

...back to having the right head on

The shock of the new, totally incompatible with the old,

cf. Mt 9.16-18

...an entirely new way of life- a God fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself out into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you

- Ephesians 4.24ish

More than an abstraction- a way of life lived among people...

Holiness is not a mystical condition experienced in relation to God but in isolation from human beings. You cannot be good in a vacuum but only in the real world of people

- John Stott

Zacchaeus shows the way...Luke 19.8

Some practical changes of mind:

- From burglar to benefactor
- From cutting speech to encouragement,
*The words of the reckless pierce like swords,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.*

- Proverbs 12.18,
cf. Mt 12.34

Seeking to please a boss you love and admire,

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God

The danger of walking after dark

...if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

- 1 John 1.7

God's new outfit with the right head on, Christ



...so what...

What influences the way you think?

Read today's passage and look for references to thinking or the mind.
Discuss what you find.

Read Romans 12.1-2; what do you think is the connection between being living sacrifices- putting off the old and on the new- and being renewed in the mind?

What does God do?

What is our responsibility? Does Matthew 5.29-30 and Philippians 4.8 for example suggest we have choices to make...

Is this practical or just goody goody?

How important do you think it is to repent- to change your mind?

Is it something that we do at the beginning of our faith alone?

Read the John Stott quote overleaf..

What do you think is involved? Is it just between you and God?

If you have time read the story of Zacchaeus from Luke 19.

What does this teach us about repentance in line with Ephesians 4?

Imagine you are one of the crowd; is it always easy to be part of someone else's repentance?

Might you have felt resentment at parts of this story?

What do you think it means to grieve the Holy Spirit?

What does this suggest should be our motivation to obey God?

Read the practical advice in Ephesians 4.25-32

You might like to pick out one area and discuss it together.

What might Ephesians 4.29 have to say to recent news events?

What might it say to your conversation?

Is this practical or just goody goody?

Read Hebrews 10.24 and finish your time resolving to act on this and maybe even discussing how you might..

PRAY

Sunday November 16th

Living the



Ephesians

Way...

A New Outfit

Ephesians 4.17-32