

Renewing of your Mind

- What is something that you identified with from Rachel's testimony last Sunday?
 - Misinformation and tragedy defined her early life.
 - Dad was in a cult. Parents divorced. Husband died. Young widow with a son.
 - It's easy to misunderstand God's role in the midst of tragedy and trauma.
 - God puts people in her life to show her a different way. She now lives a new life born out of the tragedy and trauma through Jesus Christ.
- Everyone Answer: Tell about a time that you couldn't wait to change out of the clothes you were wearing.
 - What was wrong with the clothes you had on? (old, smelly, wrinkly, different, etc.)
 - How did those clothes you were wearing make you feel? (dirty, embarrassed, hot/cold, heavy, etc.)
 - How did changing into a fresh outfit make you feel?
- Read Ephesians 4:22-24
 - In your own words, what is Paul saying in these two verses?
 - Describe your experience with this... What was it like to take off your old self?
 - How is your new self that you put on different than your old self?

The transition from the old to the new way of life in conversion is what is symbolized in baptism. By the second century, Christian baptism involved the ritual of discarding of one's old garments in preparation for donning new ones. The old life is corrupt and is fit only to be cast off as a ruined garment.

- What are the similarities that you have seen/felt between living a new life with Christ and putting on new garments?
- What are the similarities that you have seen/felt between casting aside your old life and casting away old garments?
- What does Paul say we must do to put on our new selves? Be made new in the attitude of our minds
 - What do you think Paul is teaching us about how our minds and attitudes are connected to our faith?
 - What are some ways you actively pursue renewal in your mind and your attitude?
- Pray together for constant renewal of self, family, and church.