



Elgin Evangelical Free Church - February 19, 2023

Walking away from the Old Life Ephesians 4:17-19

I. A Divine Directive—4:17a

A. Christ commands us to walk “counter culturally.”

B. This command is Possible!

II. A Defined Distinction—4:17b-19

A. Extreme Futility

B. Willful Ignorance

C. Callous Consumption

III. So what do we do?

A. Recognize that the flesh is not your master

B. Confess your sins

C. Get intentionally relational

Life Group Questions

Walking away from the Old Life

Ephesians 4:17-19

Discussion: Do you recall a time when you could not move forward without letting something or someone go? What was that like?

1. Read Ephesians 4:17-19. What do you think Paul means when he says we must “no longer walk like the gentiles”?
2. Paul appeals to the fact that this command comes from Christ. How well do you obey this command, or have you considered it optional?
3. Paul has just finished describing the “unity” that we are to maintain in the Body. Why do you think he now moves to address the need to walk away from unrighteousness? What’s the connection?
4. The illustration of walking backwards in a “lazy river” was used to describe walking away from the old life. Does that resonate with you? How?
5. How can we be confident that we CAN walk away from the Old Life? Read Romans 6:6.
6. Read Ephesians 4:17b-19. There is a downward spiral in these verses that comes with walking according to the Old Life. Describe it in your own words.
7. Now that you see the Old Life, what part of it do you need to walk away from this week?

Futility—Chasing things apart from God

Willful Ignorance—Avoiding truth because you don't want to be accountable.

Callous Consumption— Giving in to our lusts without regard for the consequences.

“If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” - I Jn. 1:9