

Reading: Ephesians 4:17-32

Topic: Developing The Christ-Like Character #2

INTRODUCTION: We are born with certain characteristics that we may have inherited _____ our parents, and we also develop certain behavior _____ that manifest themselves and become engrained in our character.

I. THE OLD BEHAVIOR PATTERNS:

A. Old Man Habits:

1. The Word of God describes our behavior before conversion as the “_____” behavior, which is not just displeasing to God, but is the works of the _____ that will cause us to be lost. Gal. 5:19-21
2. The Scripture gives a very clear command not to tolerate the behavior of the “_____” and not to continue doing those kinds of things but to “_____” that behavior and get rid of it! Eph. 4:22

B. Specific Behaviors Mentioned:

1. There are certain behaviors that are common and even accepted as the _____ in today’s society, but God’s Word does not permit us to keep them in our _____ if we are to be saved.
2. In the passage in Ephesians 4:22-32, name the things that are listed as unacceptable behaviors for the child of God:
 - a. v.22 – d _____ l _____
 - b. v. 25 l _____
 - c. v. 26 a _____
 - d. v. 28 s _____
 - e. v. 29 c _____ c _____
 - f. v.31 b _____, w _____, a _____, c _____ & e _____ s _____.
3. These behavior patterns are displeasing and reflect the behavior of the _____ of the world and not the _____ of God.

II. THE NEW BEHAVIOR PATTERNS:

A. New Man Habits:

1. The Word of God gives us another command that after we have put _____ the old man, we are to next “_____” the new man which is a creation of God. Eph. 4:24
2. When we discipline ourselves to daily _____, the Word of God daily and going to the House of God as often as we are _____ to be there, we will produce a manifestation of the _____ man.

B. Specific Behaviors Mentioned:

1. The Scripture reveals the behaviors that will begin to _____ in the life of the child of God when they apply themselves to _____ consistent spiritual principles.
2. In the passage in Ephesians 4: 22-32 name the qualities that God looks for in the lives of His children:
 - a. v. 24 r _____ and t _____ h _____
 - b. v.25 speak t _____
 - c. v. 26 s _____
 - d. v. 28 s _____ n _____ m _____
 - e. v. 29 words that are e _____
 - f. v. 32 be k _____, t _____ - h _____ f _____.
3. These Christ-like behaviors are unnatural to the carnal _____ and cannot be generated genuinely unless one stays _____ to God and filled with the Spirit of God.

III. PERSONALITY & JESUS:

A. Who We Are:

1. We all have a personality that has evolved in us due to a combination of several _____, some of which we have had no _____ over.
2. Our parental influence, the friends that we hang out with, our training and _____, along with the various experiences that we have as we _____ all contribute to our personality.

B. Positive & Negative:

1. When we take an honest _____ at ourselves, we will find that we have some very _____ qualities with our personality and also some _____ qualities as well. (personality profile)
2. We often are led to _____ that we are just who we are and we are just the way we are and that we will always be that way for the _____ of our lives.
3. However, it is possible to change your personality and behavior through allowing the _____ of God and the Word of God to _____ in our lives and produce a gradual _____ for the better. Ph. 2:13

C. Open To Change:

1. Someone has said that we are viewed in three views as to who we are – the person that others see and _____ you are, the person that you _____ you are and the person that God _____ you are.
2. Any individual who is open to _____ can be _____ and can become a better and different person through allowing God to do a work inside our hearts and _____.

CONCLUSION: The real design and _____ of God for His people is to _____ more like Jesus and reflect the Savior in our everyday _____ to those lost people around us.