

“Cultivating Our New Mind in Christ”
Ephesians 4:17-24

“Education and Entertainment are our instructors. Education and Entertainment shape our worldviews, build our tolerance for hardship and difficulty, and develop our attitudes and beliefs about sin. Education and Entertainment either present a worldview where God is obsolete, irrelevant, or non-existent or it presents a worldview where God and His glory is the reason all things exist.”

- **Holiness:**
 - We are positionally holy in Christ (1 Corinthians 6:11).
 - ***We have been given a “new mind” in Christ (Philippians 2:5).***
 - We have been given “new desires” to cultivate and old desires to kill (Romans 13:14).
 - We have been given a “new life” to be lived (Romans 6:4).
 - Our positional holiness will begin to be seen in practical holiness (1 Peter 1:15).

- **Our Minds:**
 - ***“Futility of their minds”***: Everything the unbeliever does is futile, it is in vain ultimately. Their pursuits are not to glorify God, but to glorify man or this world. In our natural state all of our doing is in vain.
 - ***“Darkened in their understanding”***: They are willfully ignorant to the knowledge of God, the worth of Christ, and the severity of their sin. Christ is not worth knowing or treasuring.
 - ***“Ignorance....due to their hardness of heart”***: The more we ignore the truths of God and embrace the lies or distortions of this world the more hardened our hearts become to God’s Word and truth.
 - ***“To be renewed in the spirit of your minds”***: In salvation, we have been given the “mind of Christ” that can be cultivated leading to a holy life. In this passage our thinking is connected to our doing....
 - “You must ***no longer walk*** as the Gentiles do, in the ***futility of their minds.***”
 - ***“Walk in a manner worthy*** of the calling to which you have ***been called.***” (Ephesians 4:1)
 - “Your former ***manner of life....***is corrupt through ***deceitful desires.***”
 - ***“Renewed*** in the spirit of your minds....in ***true righteousness and holiness.***”
 - “Do not be conformed to this world, but ***be transformed*** by the ***renewal of your mind....***” (Romans 12:2)
 - “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly....” (Colossians 3:16)

- **Four Questions:**
 - *What am I hearing and watching?*
 - *What am I thinking about? Is it Biblical or Worldly?*
 - *What do I believe?*
 - *Do I see a trajectory towards holiness or worldliness in my life?*

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of August we are collecting monetary donations for the Bobb family, who live and serve in Cambodia. For more information about the Bobbs and their work in Cambodia, please see the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations, or you can give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Bobbs.

★**CEDAR POINT:** Christina is organizing a group trip to Cedar Point on August 17th. Group Admission tickets are \$48 each (minimum of 15 people). Please contact Christina if you would like to go or you have any questions! Christina's phone number is 740-755-6512.

★**HOSPITALITY MINISTRY MEETING:** If you currently serve in the Hospitality Ministry, or if you are interested in serving in that ministry, there will be a meeting on Sunday, August 18th, immediately following the worship service. Please plan to stay for this important meeting. If you have any questions, please see Madison Ardrey.

★**MENS BREAKFAST:** Men, mark your calendars, the monthly Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, August 24th, at 7am, at Big Apple Café — Log Pond. Please RSVP to Zach Adams by Wednesday, August 21st. (740)618-0739

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship Lunch THIS Sunday, August 11th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something for the meal. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us.