



New Creation (4)
Live as Children
of Light

Phpilippinas 2:14-15

#1 Renewing of Mind

Living as children of light must start with the renewing of our minds.

“You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, **to put off your old self**, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; **to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**” (Eph 4:22-24)

The old self refers to who we were in the past when we lived without God. Our old selves were corrupted by our sin and deceitful desires. But **in Christ, our old selves died**. His blood washed away all our sins and we became new creations.

As new creations, we should never go back to our former way of life. Rather, we should put on the new self. While the old self reflected our sinful desires, **the new self reflects who God is—how righteous and holy He is.**

Becoming a new creation in Christ is recovering the image of God that we were created in but became hidden, distorted, and lost because of our sin.

#2 Renewing of Mind

New wine shouldn't be poured into old wineskins because it will ruin them by causing them to burst. New wine must be poured into new wineskins.



Jesus and the good news that He brought with His sacrifice are the new wine. If we really want to receive them and be changed by them, we should first make our hearts ready to receive them.

This can only happen when we give God control of our hearts and allow Him to renew our minds. Unless we're renewed in our minds, we can't truly know God's will for us and follow Him.

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will” (Rm 12:2)

#3 Shining the Light

To live as children of light is to shine the light we have received from Jesus.

“Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that **you may become blameless and pure, “children of God** without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky” (Php 2:14-15)

To become children of God is to live a **blameless and pure** life. These two words show the kinds of relationships we are to have with God and with others.

To live blamelessly means that there's nothing to be rebuked in our relationship with others. We shouldn't harm anyone with our words and actions.

When we fail to live out our faith as Christians, but rather act worse than non-believers, we make a laughing stock of Jesus and His gospel.

#4 Shining the Light

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, it is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot." (Mt 5:13)

Salt plays an irreplaceable role in cooking. There's nothing else to make food taste salty.

Jesus said that we're the salt of the world, which means that we're the only ones who can make people 'taste' the kingdom of God and Jesus' love. For us to do so, we should keep the saltiness in our lives. Jesus' love and His light must fill our lives so that they can naturally overflow into others' lives.

The ones who defile God's name are those who say they believe in God, not those who don't really know Him. It means that depending on how you live in the world, you glorify or defile Jesus' name.

People around you can find the treasure hidden in the field or miss how worthy it is through you. So, as children of light, we are to shine the light of Jesus to others with our blameless lives.

#5 Shining the Light

“...Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky”
(Php 2:15)

“Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.” (Dn 12:3)

To live as children of light is to shine the light of Jesus on those around us so that they may see the true light and come to Him. When we live righteous lives in accordance with God’s will, conforming to His image, many will be led to God, and He will be glorified.



Christians don't shine light to reveal themselves. We only shine light for the sake of the glory of God.

#6 Shining the Light

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Mt 5:16)

To shine light as Christians is not an abstract concept. Rather, it is a very practical one that must affect our every deed. Shining the light means doing good, and the purpose of it is for the glory of God.

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.” (Is 60:1)

Let your light

SHINE

Matthew 5:16



New Creation (4) Live As Children of Light

Memory Verses

“Put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.” (Eph 4:22-24) (2)

“Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky” (Php 2:14-15) (2)

“Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.” (Dn 12:3) (1)

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Mt 5:16) (1)

Questions

1) To live as children of light is to put off the old self and put on the new self. What do you think this means? What are the things that you want to 'put off' and 'put on' this year?

2) To live as children of light is to shine the light of Jesus through our good deeds. Can you name some specific ways you can show who Jesus is through your life?