

Challenge 7 - Put Off - Put On

Challenge Scenario:

It seems as though we all enjoy a good shopping spree for some new clothes -- especially if someone else is buying! The clothes we wear become too small, faded, threadbare and are no longer suitable for us. So when we do acquire new clothes we can't wait to put off the old ones, set them aside, and put on the new. Likewise, our lives have an old nature -- one that needs to be set aside because it's no longer suitable for us. A new nature has been purchased that we can put on. The challenge for us is a transparent, honest assessment of what needs to be put off and what's available to be put on.

Scripture Reading:

Read Colossians 2:16-3:17 in the English Standard Version of the Bible, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+2%3A16-3%3A17&version=ESV>

Challenges:

1. Verses 2:16-22 start with the word "Therefore." This is where you must recall the final part of your thinking from Challenge 6. Although you are in Challenge 7, these verses are a continuation of the apostle Paul's thought of being completely free from blame and debt through Jesus' death on the cross. With that in mind:
 - i. Search "asceticism" <https://www.bing.com/search?q=asceticism>
 - ii. Contrast a life of asceticism vs. a life that "...holds fast to the Head [Christ]..."
 - iii. How are rules "...of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh."?
2. Verses 3:5-12 provide insight into what makes up the old and the new nature.
 - i. List all the characteristics you identify for the:
 - a. **Old Nature** -
 - b. **New Nature** -
 - ii. How does one go about putting off the old and putting on the new?
 - iii. Is putting on the new nature something that makes a person more acceptable to God?

3. Verses 3:1-4 calls us to a new focus.

i. How does where our mind is focused impact our old and new nature?

#Hack4Faith:

Write 4 faith phrases that are your takeaways from this challenge.

1. Phrase -
2. Phrase -
3. Phrase -
4. Phrase -

#YourFaith2Action:

From your Faith phrases above, write 2 action statements.

1. Statement -
2. Statement -

Prayer:

Write a prayer.

Discussion Preparation:

- List any questions you would like to discuss.
- Identify 2 key discoveries you would like to share.

Online Resources:

- The English Standard version of the Bible
- Bing Search

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