

People of a New Nature

September 20, 2026

2 Cor. 5:17 NKJV Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a **new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

A person's **nature** informs the way they **think**, the way they **decide**, and the way they **love**.

Our old nature aligns with the **ways** of the **world**, marked by:

- **Confusion** - often cloaked in self confidence or pride
Ephesians 4:17 NLT With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused.
Isaiah 5:20 NLT What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter.
- **Darkness** - unable or unwilling to perceive
Ephesians 4:18 NLT Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him.
- **Closed mindedness** - refusal to hear and accept truth
- **Hard heartedness** - unwillingness to change; pride
Ezekiel 11:19 NLT I will take away their stony heart, stubborn heart and give them a tender, responsive heart.

- **unrestrained desire** - no self discipline

Ephesians 4:19 NLT They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.

- **self-focused & self-righteousness** - It's all about me

Ephesians 4:20-22 NLT 20 But that isn't what you learned about Christ. 21 Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, 22 **throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life**, which is corrupted by lust and deception.

We are born with the old nature; which is why we must be **born again** in **Christ**.

Ephesians 4:23 & 24 NLT 23 Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. 24 **Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.**

Jesus changes the way we **think**, **decide**, and how we **love** by the power of the **Holy Spirit**.

Ephesians 4:25-31 NLT 25 So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. 26 And “don't sin by letting anger control you.” Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

28 If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give

generously to others in need. 29 Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

30 And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption.

31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior.

We daily **choose** to **throw off** the old nature (ways of the world) and **put on** the new nature (the ways of Jesus).

Rom. 12:2 NKJV Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

The ways of Jesus are marked by **kindness**, **compassion**, and **forgiveness**.

Ephesians 4:32 NLT Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Romans 2:4 NLT Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?