

BRINGING IT HOME

New Operating System!

This week, we have studied the truth that God makes us a new creation through Christ. God upgrades our operating system, rewires our brokenness and gives us a fresh start!

However, sometimes an unseen bug might stick around to cause us some trouble. That underlying problem is often a lack of forgiveness – of ourselves and others.

Let’s work on forgiveness so that we can get on with using this new operating system to the fullest!

1. What do you need to forgive yourself for? Include those things that you’ve asked God to forgive, but you continue to carry around.

2. Turn these things completely over to God. Do not pick them up again. Ask God to help you with that.

3. Who do you need to forgive? Include those people who you think you forgave, but you continue to hold a grudge against.

PRAY! God, thank you for forgiving me. Help me to stay clothed in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Help me to forgive myself and forgive others without holding onto a grudge. Amen.



SERMON NOTES

2 Kings 5:1-16

You are...A New Creation

1. What did you learn about God from today’s Scripture and sermon?
2. What did you learn about yourself?
3. What action might God be calling you to this week?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Colossians 3:1-14

Paul wrote this letter to the church in Colosse to address false teaching and to show that believers have everything they need in Christ. In the third chapter, Paul explains what it means to put on a new nature when we believe in Christ. We change our moral and ethical behavior by letting Christ live in us, so that He can shape us into what God planned for us.

1. What do you think Paul means when he says to set our hearts and minds “on things above”?
2. How might *setting our hearts* be different than or the same as *setting our minds*?
3. Why does Paul say, “For you died”? Is he talking about when we get to Heaven?
4. Why do you think Paul lists those specific attitudes and actions that we should “put to death” and “rid ourselves of”? Is there anything that you think he may have missed?
5. If believers don’t eliminate these attitudes and behaviors, what might be the impact on ourselves and our church?
6. What can you do to fill your heart and mind with Christ to make it easier to eliminate those attitudes and behaviors or avoid putting the “old” back on?
7. What are we to clothe ourselves with?
8. What do you find most challenging about keeping yourself clothed in the new self? What does Paul say about us that might make it easier?
9. What does Paul say that we need to put on over all our new “clothing”? Thinking back to last week’s study, why would he be making this point?
10. How does understanding and embracing that you are a new creation impact your perspective of who you are in Christ?

LIFE CHECK

1. Where did you see God at work in your life this week? Consider the following questions as you think about God working in your spiritual, home, work and social life.

How were you blessed this week?

Did God prompt you to bless someone this week? How did they respond?

How has God answered prayer?

Did you seek God’s will and obey?

Did God speak to you through Scripture, a person, or in some other way? What happened?

How did God work in and through you to share your faith this week through words and/or actions?

2. What action might you take this week to draw closer to God and see Him at work in your life?

PRAY

Lord, thank you for all that you have done here at St. Philip’s to impact the world for Christ. Lead us in the process of calling our next Rector and raise up a faithful leader to care for your people and grow our ministries. Amen.