

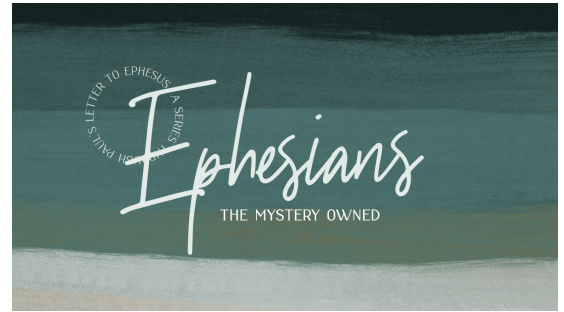
# Northland Christian Church

## Group Discussion Guide

**Series: Ephesians – The Mystery Owned**

**Text: Ephesians 4:17-32**

**Date: January 24, 2021**



### How to Use This Guide

• Use the questions in each section below as a springboard for discussion. Do not feel like you have to follow the study guide religiously or hit every question. These questions are designed to help spark discussion. Refer to as needed.

### Connection and Introduction

*(answer some of the following as you feel is beneficial for your group)*

- Did you like to play dress up as a kid? If so, what did you pretend to be? Why? What made that exciting?
- When you were growing up, what was the most popular brand of clothing or shoes? Were you able to wear that brand? How did that make you feel? How did that make you connect or disconnect with others?
- Are there brands or objects in our current times that identify people with certain groups? What are they? What affect does this have on people (relationally, financially, emotionally, etc.)?
- What characteristics in people do you find most admirable? What attributes do you strive to emulate in life? What characteristics in people drive others away the most? What characteristics create distance?

### Engage the Scriptures - Read Ephesians 4:17-32 with the group.

#### Discussion Questions

Remember that:

*"You cannot follow Jesus and stay the same." - Dave Rizer*

1. According to verses 17 through 22, why do people struggle to live healthy, wholesome, and good lives?
2. Paul talks about a "former way of life" (verse 22) in this passage. What does this mean for our lives as followers of Jesus?
3. Paul uses the analogy of putting things off and putting things on. How does this help you understand the Christian life? What does this mean for us individually as followers of Jesus? What's our responsibility?
4. What should our "wardrobe" look like as followers of Jesus?
5. What characteristics or attitudes of Jesus do you find most appealing or encouraging? How could Jesus-followers reflect these today? How could those help others come to know Jesus today?
6. Are there any "old clothes" from your "before-Jesus life" that you are still wearing? Are there old clothes that others can see you wearing?
7. What impact is this having on your life? On your family? On your friendships?

*"The goal is to look more like Jesus today than you did yesterday." - Dave Rizer*

8. Paul lists several things that can be put off and on (see verses 23-32). How are these helpful? What ones are most challenging for you? Why?
9. Can you think of any other things that would be helpful for Christians to wear or not wear in today's times?
10. How does what we put on and take off affect others? How does it affect the Church? How might it reflect upon Jesus and His work in the world? (See Ephesians 4:15-16 & 32)

#### Apply It - Write it Down

11. Are there specific things that the Lord wants you to specifically put on and take off? Take time during group to write these down. Spend just 2 to 5 minutes doing this. Then take these into your prayer time.

#### Apply It - Time in Prayer

Spend time praying for and with each other.