

The logo features the word "Ephesians" in a large, white, cursive script font. Below it, the word "EXTRAORDINARY" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif, all-caps font. The text is centered within a dark, circular background that has a textured, wood-grain-like appearance. The entire logo is set against a dark red background with horizontal wood-grain lines.

Ephesians

EXTRAORDINARY

Discussion Guide | Week 8: Extraordinary Mindset | April 3, 2022

INTRO VIDEO Start off your group by clicking the YouTube link below to watch the icebreaker clip “Old Self vs. New Self” from *Living Proof Ministries with Beth Moore*...

<https://youtu.be/3GDHpMAKrSU>

OVERVIEW Ephesians 4 says that when you became a follower of Jesus, he gave you a new identity & a new life. We’re told to take off our old mindset & put on the new. This transformation means that the choices of your old life no longer own you... that your old failures no longer define you... that your old mindsets no longer control you. Jesus has given you a new identity & a new life. But you must put that lifestyle on & wear it! As you live in that new mindset, you’ll come to understand how good it really looks on you.

KEY VERSES Ephesians 4:17-28 (NIV84)

REMEMBER Pastor Brad shared a story about how Native Americans used a method called “the blood knife” to kill & trap wolves. Without realizing it, the blood popsicle would trick the wolf into eventually drinking its own blood & destroying itself. Brad compared this to how our own desires can consume us & lead to our demise. What struck you about that example when you heard it, and why? Share.

REFLECT In this week’s clip, Beth Moore spoke briefly on Ephesians 4:22. Beth said we’re most likely to trust our old selves... even though our old self is deceitful in what it wants & what it thinks. That’s why it’s so crucial to yield to the Holy Spirit & operate out of the mentality of our new selves, because we always risk defaulting back to the patterns of our old selves that we practiced for so long. How have you seen this play out in the lives of people around you? Explain.

RESPOND Have someone read Ephesians 4:22-24. Paul wants you to recognize that the continual renewing of your spirit & mind helps you live in light of your new self. So where in your life are you living as if you were still wearing your old self? What does that look like? Share.

REAL LIFE In Ephesians 4:22-24, the word for “put off” is a form of the common word which means to “throw away, toss aside, or get rid of.” It can be used for the removal of clothing, but it’s even stronger than that. These aren’t the old sneakers you kick off at night & lace up again the next morning. These are ones you burn... the pair your mom wouldn’t let sit there stinking up the laundry room. We “put on” Christ like a crisp new outfit, with the old one tossed aside. What do you need to do to toss aside your old clothes & put on new ones? Explain.

PRAYER TIME To close your time, have each person in the group think of someone who doesn’t know Jesus whom they can invite to join them for Easter weekend services at SCC this year. (Note: Easter & Christmas are the 2 weekends each year when people are most likely to say “yes” to an invitation to attend church.) Share the names of the people who came to mind & pray for God to open doors to invite them.