

# Practicing Christianity

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians 4:22-27.
- B. Subject: how to practice Christianity in a confused world.
- C. The world teaches to live for you.

## II. The answer of Christianity is to come to a personal experience of a living Lord learning to let Him live His life in a person.

- A. Christ offers to do this.
- B. This is difficult to grasp, but this is not mystic neutrality—it involves a continual exercise of the human will.
- C. It is called a walk because the steps are repeated over and over.
- D. This is not about religion.

## III. Application to various areas of living.

- A. This life is not possible unless one has been regenerated.
- B. There is a putting on of the old life and a putting on of the new life by the Christian.
  - 1. This is only possible for the Christian.
  - 2. For the non-Christian the old life is the only life.
  - 3. The Christian must be born again.
- C. The Christian must not personally put himself to death—this has been done already on the cross.
- D. It is not knowledge that accomplishes this—putting on the new life requires practice.

## IV. Putting off the old life and putting on the new life.

- A. The old life is characterized by lying.
  - 1. The Christian is not to lie because this is what he has rejected in Christ.
  - 2. The new life is speaking the truth to one's neighbor.
  - 3. We do not lie because we are members of one another.

4. We are commanded to rebuke those in Scripture—not just lie to please someone. (Luke 17)

B. The old life is characterized by anger that sins.

1. We are to be angry yet not sin.

2. There is a sinful kind of anger that is self-centered. This is always wrong.

3. True anger is that which is concerned with others' wrongs.

4. However, even righteous anger is not to be nursed—the devil takes opportunity of anger that is fostered.

**Application questions:**

1. What does it mean to allow Christ to live in you? What does it not mean?

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2. How can one “put on the new life?”

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3. Which characteristic of the old life do you struggle with the most? How has God shown you the path to victory in this area?

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