

“The You, You Were Meant to Be”
“Everything You’re Missing....
That You Already Have” (Ephesians) - Part 8

June 29, 2025

Ephesians 4:1 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. (NLT)

1. The old you - or who you're not meant to be.
- 2.

Ephesians 4:17-19 17 So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.

18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

19 Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. (NIV)

2. The new you - or who you are meant to be

Ephesians 4:20-23 20 That, however, is not the way of life you learned

21 when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;

23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; (NIV)

Romans 12:2 2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (NLT)

Ephesians 4:24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. (NIV)

3. The transformed you - or what the new you looks like.

6 Characteristics to Seek for Your New Life

1. Be genuine with people.

Ephesians 4:25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. (NIV)

2. Control your anger.

Ephesians 4:26-27 26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. (NIV)

3. Live with integrity.

Ephesians 4:28 Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. (NIV)

4. Watch your mouth!

Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. (NIV)

5. Honor the Spirit within you!

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (NIV)

6. Lead with Kindness and Forgiveness

Ephesians 4:31-32 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (NIV)

Recognize that you are first a sinner - and secondly you are sinned against.

Ephesians 4:26 Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry (NIV)

Romans 12:17-20 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil.

18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

20 On the contrary:

**"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." (NIV)**

Ephesians 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (NIV)

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH YARD SIGNS!- Please take a yard sign (or two) home with you to promote our church to our neighbors. We have blue, green, red, yellow and multicolored signs with our church logo on one side - and "4U - Because You Matter to God" on the other side. The signs are located in the foyer area - just to your left as you leave the worship center.

4TH OF JULY PARADE! - We will be serving hot dogs, chips, fried dough, brownie bombs, drinks and more in our front lawn during the 4th of July parade. Please fill out the volunteer form in today's bulletin if you are interested in helping. We also still need help with parking attendants for the town fireworks on July 3rd.

PRAYER - Toward the end of our closing song two of our deacons will come up to the left of the stage to offer prayer for anyone that would like to speak with them. They will, then hang around for a few more minutes in case anyone needs prayer.

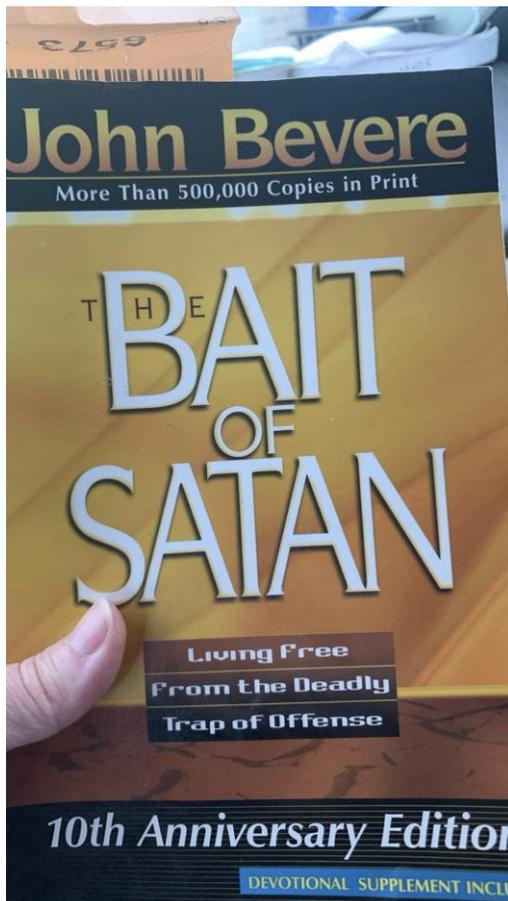
OFFERING BOXES - If you would like to leave an offering to go to the general funds for Ashland Community Church, you can drop it off in one of the offering boxes that are just to

the right and left of the doors before you leave the worship center. There is also an offering box just to the left of the door if you leave the worship center from the door in the front of the worship center. Thank you for your gifts that are enabling us to increase our ministries!

YOUTH GROUP - Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 PM. They will be meeting in the dining room downstairs.

WORSHIP AT THE BEACH (COOKOUT AND BAPTISMS)!- Our annual worship service at the Ashland Beach is scheduled for Sunday, August 24th at 10 am. We will be serving a cookout for everyone at the beach right after the worship service, and then having some more baptisms! Please see Ernie if you or someone you know would like to get baptized on that day.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY! - September 21st! - Save the date! We're planning to have a big celebration this year as we start having two Sunday morning worship services (9 & 10:45 am). We'll be recruiting for several positions that still need to be filled in order to make this a success, and we'll be looking for lots of volunteers for several projects to make our church look great for this special occasion. We'll keep you posted with plenty of updates up until the big event.



THE BAIT OF SATAN

Summer Small Group led by Krystal Elder

Fridays Starting July 11th - August 22nd

6:00 - 8:30 pm Pot luck supper begins at 6 and study begins at 6:45 pm

Are you compelled to tell your side of the story?

Do you fight thoughts of suspicion or distrust?

Are you constantly rehearsing past hurts?

Have you lost hope because of what someone did to you?

The Bait of Satan exposes one of the most deceptive snares Satan uses to get believers out of the will of God--offense. This trap restrains countless

Christians, severs relationships, and widens the gulfs between us. Jesus said, "It is impossible that no offenses should come" (Luke 17:1). Although you *will* encounter offense, you can choose how you will react.

Come and join us this summer on Fridays nights at 6 pm starting July 11th! If you're interested, please fill out the form in your bulletin and give it to Krystal Elder or Ernie.