

**A New Way of Thinking**  
**Ephesians 4:17-25**  
**A New Way to Be Human, 1**  
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**There is a distinctly Biblical way for thinking about “self” ... 4:22-24**  
“put off your old self ... and put on the new self”

*We are ... connected to each other.*

*We are ... a community on a journey.*

**How does this new way of thinking emerge? 4:17-25**

**1. Identify and abandon the old way of thinking ...**

“in the futility of their minds”

- It is based on thinking that others exist for me.
- It leads to a hardened heart.
- It results in an ongoing quest for self-indulgence.

**2. Recognize and choose a new way of thinking ...**

“be renewed in the spirit of your minds”

- My confidence is that God can satisfy me.
- My passion is to selflessly love others.
- My purpose is for God’s character to be seen through **us**. cf. 1:23; 4:13

**3. Embrace the reality that “I am we” ...**

“for we are members one of another”

**Quote:**

“The serious Christian, set down for the first time in a Christian community, is likely to bring with him a very definite idea of what Christian life together should be and to try to realize it. But God’s grace speedily shatters such dreams. Just as surely as God desires to lead us to a knowledge of genuine Christian fellowship, so surely must we be overwhelmed by a great disillusionment with others, with Christians in general, and, if we are fortunate, with ourselves.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer