

SERMON GUIDE

THE TRIUMPH OF THE MODERN SELF

Ephesians 4:17-24 | Pastor Tim Prince

June 4, 2023

Helping people live a gospel inspired life.

Watch or listen to sermons at fcchudson.com or the FCC app. Go to the App Store or Google Play and search "Faith Community Church Hudson" to download the app.

Listen to this week's worship music playlist on Spotify.

SERMON NOTES

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OUR MISSION is to make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

Matt. 18:15-16 (Church Life) If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

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Conversation Questions

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Monday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- S**cripture that stands out to you while you read
- O**bservations you are making about a passage
- A**pplications that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- P**rayers that invite God to participate in all that you do

Getting to Know Me: What is your earliest memory of being assigned an "identity" - for example: "You are fast." "You are smart." "You are..." Can you remember it? How did it impact your life?

Note About the Passage: In this series we're going to be talking a lot about "expressive individualism". Expressive individualism is a concept that places a strong emphasis on the individual's personal self-expression and fulfillment as the highest value in life. It emphasizes the importance of personal identity, autonomy, and self-discovery. Individuals are encouraged to express their emotions, thoughts, and values openly and authentically, without conforming to societal expectations or norms.

Read Ephesians 4:17-24

- S:** What verses, phrases, words, or feelings stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything "illuminated," surprising, or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O:** How is this teaching about our hearts, minds, and desires (v.17-24) the same or different than the teaching of expressive individualism? What does expressive individualism get right? What does it get wrong?
- A:** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A:** What parts of your "old self" that need to be put off? What are they? Is there a step you could take this week to "put off your old self?"
- A:** What is part of the "new self" that you need to put on this week? Is there a step you could take this week to "put on the new self?"
- A:** Is there any part of your life that you suspect your understanding of God is "darkened?" Any places or relationships in your life that you experience hardness of heart?
- P:** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.