

LAYING ASIDE THE OLD SELF, PUTTING ON THE NEW SELF (PART 2)

... in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth (Ephesians 4:22-24 NASB).

- 1** The apostle Paul had such an awareness of God's loving, caring presence that even in prison, he chose to rejoice (Acts 16:25). Pray that the members of your church family will consistently lay aside the practice of complaining about circumstances and will instead "rejoice in the Lord always" (Philippians 4:4).
- 2** Since life in Christ is so much more than the daily routines of eating, drinking, and seeing our bodies clothed, pray that Christians all over the country will not be fearfully consumed in seeing their needs met, but instead will cast their cares on God, the One who graciously provides for His children (Matthew 6:25; 1 Peter 5:7).
- 3** Pray that God will protect your friends from evil and the temptation to have unbelieving hearts. Pray that instead of falling away from loving the living Christ, they will be drawn more fully into His holy presence (Hebrews 3:12).
- 4** Please pray that your church family will be faithful in fulfilling the assignments given to them by the Lord. Pray that their commitments to serving Him will not fluctuate regardless of each task's size, visibility, or importance in the eyes of men (Luke 16:10).
- 5** Pray that your church family will not neglect God's Word but will delight in it, meditating on its truths during both the day and evening hours (Psalm 1:2).
- 6** Knowing that "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:41), please pray for your Christian friends to be willing to pray "at all times" and "not to lose heart" (Luke 18:1).
- 7** Jesus felt compassion for the lost because He saw them like "distressed and dispirited" sheep without a shepherd (Matthew 9:36). Please pray for the church in America to regain its concern and burden for the lost.
- 8** Knowing that Christian stewards should always be found trustworthy (1 Corinthians 4:2), pray that churches all across America that have been given much by God will pass the test when God requires much of them (Luke 12:48).
- 9** The urgency we are feeling for revival is pushing us to use every moment wisely. Please pray that Christians across the nation will not procrastinate in their obedience to Christ but will demonstrate great diligence in serving Him (Proverbs 10:5).
- 10** Knowing there is no one on earth or in heaven comparable to Almighty God, pray that churches across America will lay down irreverence and offer to God the glorious type of adoration and worship of which He is so deserving (Psalm 89:6-7).
- 11** In loving others, pray that Christians today will be diligent in practicing hospitality, caring for others without complaining about the people they serve or the acts of kindness they are demonstrating (1 Peter 4:8-9).
- 12** The Bible teaches that stealing is out of character for the life of a genuine believer (1 Corinthians 6:10). Pray that new Christians across the country will turn away from every form of theft and instead labor diligently in order to be able to share with those in need (Ephesians 4:28).
- 13** Knowing that self-control is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:23), pray that the members of your church family will be diligent in pursuing the kind of relationship with Christ that enables them to exercise "self-control in all things" (1 Corinthians 9:25).
- 14** Pray that Christians will be diligent in disciplining their bodies, laying down gluttony and laziness in order to "not be disqualified" in serving Christ (1 Corinthians 9:27; Proverbs 23:21).

- 15** Pray that the youth of your church will “not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners” (Psalm 1:1), but instead will walk with those who are wise (Proverbs 13:20).
- 16** Pray that those who have been blessed with “the world’s goods” will lay down stinginess and open their hearts to obey God, especially as He directs them to be generous in helping meet the physical needs of other believers (1 John 3:17).
- 17** Pray that the youth of your church family will walk in moral purity, abstaining from sexual immorality and purposing at all times to live free from “lustful passion” (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5).
- 18** With the understanding that every Christian’s physical body is “a temple of the Holy Spirit,” pray that your church family will flee immorality and glorify God in their bodies (1 Corinthians 6:18-20).
- 19** Pray that your church family will “deny ungodliness and worldly desires” in order “to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age” (Titus 2:12).
- 20** In a day when the divorce rate in our culture is extremely high, pray that every married couple within your church family will flee from adultery and practice marital fidelity by honoring their covenantal vows (Proverbs 5:15-18; Matthew 5:27-28).
- 21** In a day when much confusion exists in our culture regarding homosexuality, pray that pastors across the nation will stand firmly on God’s Word in helping their congregations understand the clear, biblical statements that address this topic (Leviticus 18:22; Romans 1:21-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:8-11).
- 22** Pray that the men of your church will conduct themselves with integrity of heart even while at home. Pray that they will “hate the work of those who fall away” and not permit pornography or fleshly acts of wickedness to permeate their thinking (Psalm 101:2-3).
- 23** Pray that the women of your church will adorn themselves with modest and discreet clothing, intentionally avoiding being “dressed as a harlot” (Proverbs 7:10; 1 Timothy 2:9).
- 24** Pray for the youth of your church family to “fear the LORD and turn away from evil” (Proverbs 3:7), not allowing their peers to entice them into acts of ungodliness (Proverbs 1:10).
- 25** Pray for your church family to avoid any involvement with witchcraft, palm readers, mediums, or horoscopes, understanding that “whoever does these things is detestable to the LORD” (Deuteronomy 18:9-12).
- 26** Pray that those in your church family who may have struggled with drunkenness in the past will be diligent to continually “put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts” (Romans 13:13-14).
- 27** Just as people in Isaiah’s day were sinfully caught up in activities dedicated to the false gods called Fortune and Destiny, pray that those in your church family who are involved in or enslaved to gambling or taking unnecessary financial risks will repent and turn away from these oppressive activities (Isaiah 65:11-12).
- 28** People today are often tempted to boast in their own abilities and to make proud, presumptuous declarations regarding their future successes. Pray that the members of your church family will always humbly entrust their lives and their futures into the hands of the One who truly reigns over tomorrow (James 4:13-16).