

NEW CREATION

: A new perspective [Ephesians 1: 15-23 (NLT)]

1. When the eyes of our heart are enlightened, we get a new perspective (Ephesians 1:18)

Paul wants his readers to see the world through Christ's eyes. This will transform our vision even more than a colour TV replacing a black and white one, or than the effect of watching a film with 3D glasses. It enables us to view people with a different perspective focused on what is on the inside not the outside.

2. It helps us see the positive not the negative aspects of our life (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

An attitude of thanksgiving in all circumstances presents a positive witness of our faith (Romans 8:28).

We should be optimistic rather than pessimistic – glass half full not glass half empty people.

It makes us less hasty in our judgement of people and more willing to apologise and to forgive.

3. Since Christ's return to Heaven, the Church has been His only body

Paul's words provide a vision, a manifesto, a brief for what a church should be like.

They emphasise that Jesus depends on His church to spread the news of what He did.

He just asked Peter, James, John and few others to tell people and to ask them to pass it on.

4. We need to use improve our "sight" regularly to sustain the new perspective

Paul urges his readers to "know God better" in order to "see" things spiritually not just intellectually.

Incomplete knowledge hampers our ability to acknowledge who Jesus is and what He has done.

Spiritual spectacles like worship, prayer and scripture reading will improve this kind of "sight".

DISCUSS

1. Is your natural instinct to see faults in new ideas more than in the benefits they offer?
2. How influenced is your judgement of people based on hearsay not through knowing them?
3. Does your view of today's world predominantly have a pessimistic or an optimistic outlook? Why?
4. How clearly do you "see" what God is calling us to do now in fulfilling His plan for salvation?

We believe our God-given vision is see:
thriving communities springing up,
where everyone can belong and find hope in Jesus.

Group Sunday message notes 2026

