

*Gospel Truths - New in Christ*



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Do you recycle paper and plastic at your house? Imagine taking old plastic bottles and using them to make something completely new, like a boat that sails on the ocean. That's what a group of people in California are doing. They are building a 60 foot boat made entirely of recycled plastic bottles. They are taking something most people throw away and making it into something new, something that's useful and beautiful.

The Bible says our lives are a lot like that. We were once ruined because of sin. In fact, we were enemies of God. Instead of living to please God we lived to please ourselves. We were selfish, ungrateful, unkind, and full of pride. This way of living only resulted in sadness, both for ourselves and for those around us.

But now through the gospel God has made us into something new. If you are trusting in Jesus you are a **new creation**. **The old has passed away** - living for your own selfish desires, foolish talk, boasting, and disobeying your parents. Not that you will be perfect, but you're different now because of the work of Christ in your life. **The new has come** - living to please Jesus, encouraging others, humility, joyful obedience. These things are now more and more a part of how you think and speak and act because you have been changed by the gospel.

Are you trusting in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins? If so, do you know that Jesus has made you into someone new - someone who wants to obey and follow him? Is there any place in your life where you are still living the old way? Talk to God in prayer and ask him to change you. Ask him to help you live as a new creation by the power of the Holy Spirit.