CHARIS YOUTH

Series: Living by Divine Design

Lesson 3: Wear Your Designer Clothes

About This Lesson

Some schools require uniforms to promote equality among students and reduce comparisons. As Christians, we are to look, think, and act differently from the world. When we clothe ourselves in Christ, and His qualities shine through us, we are wearing our "Designer" clothes! This lesson challenges the young people to desire to renew their minds, reflecting their divine designer.

Key Takeaway: Don't be afraid to look different from the world. You should look and act like you did before you learned your value in Christ.

Key Verse: Galatians 3:27 *For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

Teaching Outline:

I. CHRISTIANS ARE CREATED TO WEAR DESIGNER CLOTHES

A. God created you in His image with a plan and a purpose. You are unique and one of a kind—don't try to look like everyone else.

B. You have value, and your life should reflect that value and divine design.

II. BELIEVERS SHOULD LOOK DIFFERENT THAN UNBELIEVERS

Ephesians 4:17-24 *This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, [18] having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; [19] who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. [20] But you have not so learned Christ, [21] if indeed you have heard Him*

and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: [22] that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, [23] and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, [24] and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

A. Unbelievers have a darkened understanding, alienated from the life of God, ignorance that is in them, blindness of heart, given to lewdness, uncleanness, and greediness.

B. Believers have heard Jesus and been taught by Him, so we are to put off the old man.

C. You don't want to look or act like you did before you learned your value in Christ, which comes from your relationship with Him.

III. PUT ON THE CLOTHES THAT GOD DESIGNED FOR YOU!

A. As believers, we are to be renewed in the spirit of our mind (disposition or attitude) and put on the new man! The new man wears "Jesus," who is in us. You were designed to be in relationship with Jesus.

B. What happens if a believer isn't renewed in the spirit of their mind? They will look like a nonbeliever. They are wearing the wrong attire!

C. Your life will go in the direction of your dominant thoughts—the spirit of your mind.
   1. To be renewed in the spirit of your mind, you need to be taught by Jesus!
      a. Read your Bible.
      b. Go to a good church.
      c. Be around like-minded believers. When looking for advice, go to people who are strong believers and have good fruit in their lives.

D. To "renew your mind" means to renovate it!
   Romans 12:1–2 *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. [2] And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

1. Change your mind + thinking + believing + speaking = Change of RESULTS
2. "Present your bodies a living sacrifice" means that you commit to living for Jesus!
3. You need to discern when your thinking and actions go against the life Jesus has for you. Don't conform to the world's ways.
4. Transformation occurs when you renew your mind by living for Jesus, following the Word, plugging into a good church, and having your closest relationships be people of like-minded faith.

Bottom Line:
Your divine designer has clothed you in clothing that does not look like the world. Be different, renew your mind, and wear your designer clothes!

Small Group Time:

1. Look around the group, and you'll notice different types of clothing. We often choose clothes that are comfortable or reflect our personality or style.

- What are some of your favorite clothing brands? What brand would you never wear?
- Are there any celebrities/athletes/actors/influencers whose style you try to look like? Who do you want to avoid looking like?

2. Ephesians 4:22 and 24 say that as believers, we are to put off the old man and put on the new man. This isn't about wearing specific types of clothing; it's about your soul (your mind, will, emotions, thought-life) and your spirit reflecting your Christian walk with Jesus.

- What are some qualities that Jesus had that you would like to wear as your designer clothes? (Possible answers: forgiving, generous, joyful, a leader, not compromising, always sought to do the will of the Father, purposeful, carried authority)
- Which of these designer clothes did you wear today? Explain your answer.

3. Ephesians 4:23 says that we should be renewed in the spirit of our mind.

- What are some ways you can get unstuck when your thinking and attitude aren't going t655encouraging people, or talk to someone who wants to help you)
- Think about a time when you were stuck in a bad attitude. Were you able to get unstuck and shift your attitude? How? If not, what would you do differently to get unstuck?

Declaration:
"I am clothed in my designer clothes, so I think, look, and act differently from the world."

Youth Weekly Journal:

Handout, Email, or Download

- **Question:** Which of Jesus' qualities (designer clothes) do you want to wear today?
- **Pray:** Ask God to show you what areas of your life don't look like Jesus and need a renewing of your mind to see them transform.
- **Read:** Colossians 3:12 each day this week and memorize it.
- **Live It:** Take an inventory of your spiritual "clothes closet." See what needs to be removed and replaced with Designer clothes. Begin each day picking out the spiritual clothes you want to wear, and let the Holy Spirit help you wear them well.
- **Create:** Colossians 3:12 says to clothe yourself with: tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, and longsuffering. Design some pieces of clothing with these words on them, or create pictures of showing these characteristics.

EXTENDING THE LESSON

Icebreaker Question: What famous person would you want to come to your next birthday party, and why?

Opening Activity Suggestion: Play this game to get the youth thinking about clothing. Have the young people get into groups of three or four. Choose a letter of the alphabet, and have the groups write items of clothing that start with that letter. For example, T: tank top, t-shirt, tap shoes, tuxedo, etc. At the end of two minutes, have

groups read their lists and cross off anything they mentioned. Count the number of unique answers to get the group's score. Give another letter and play again as time allows.

Opening Affirmation: "God's Word says I'm created in God's image with a divine purpose. I know my value, and I choose to clothe myself with my heavenly Designer clothing."

Giving Time: Psalm 112:1–3 *Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments. [2] His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed. [3] Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.*

If your parents and grandparents are Christ followers, they have set a foundation for you to be blessed. God wants to honor your family now and in the future. You can assure blessings for your future kids by obeying God and being blessed by Him. Wealth and riches are God's blessings to be used to bless others.

BEYOND – ADDITIONAL APPLICATION FOR CHURCH OR HOME

Challenge: This week, challenge the youth to intentionally put on Christ in their thoughts, words, and actions. Have them reflect on their day and write down something each day that showed Jesus in them. Invite them to share what they learned or recognized about themselves when they consciously put on Christ.

Biblical Worldview: Often, young people want to fit in rather than stand out, especially in their wardrobe. The Bible clearly instructs us not to look like the world but to look like Jesus. To look like Jesus, young people need to know what He is like, and that means reading Scripture to learn His characteristics. Encourage the young people to read their Bibles and to look for ways to resemble Jesus rather than the world.

Outreach/Missions: Isaiah 61:10 says, "…For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness." How many of your friends and family members are not clothed in these important pieces of clothing? As you pray

for them to be ready to receive salvation, don't forget that showing your divine designer clothing is a way to help them decide they want to wear it too. When you pray for someone, be open to opportunities to share your testimony and to pray with them for salvation. God can use you to answer your own prayers!