

Ephesians Series

Ephesians 4:28-32
Action Steps for the New You

Questions or responses to the sermon this morning?

1. What should a Christian (who can't afford to lose his job) do if his boss asks him to fudge an account statement in favor of the company?
2. How can a lazy person recognize this sin in himself and then overcome it? What steps should he take?
3. What are your thoughts about "If a person doesn't work, neither should he eat" — how would this play out practically in a local church setting?
4. What guidelines might you have for making restitution for theft or damaging something not belonging to you? Do you need to follow the Old Testament guidelines for the multiplier in the case of theft?
5. How would you counsel a professing Christian who admitted that his speech was often unwholesome, but who wanted to change? Where would you start?
6. Agree/disagree - How I think and what I think affects how I talk to people.
7. How do you confront someone in a spirit of kindness if their language and joking is offensive?
8. We didn't spend much time on "grieving the Holy Spirit" - might you expand Paul's admonition not to do it. How does our sin affect Him?
9. Do you think of the Holy Spirit as a person or more as a "force"? Why is the latter detrimental? How can you change your thinking on this?
10. "Let *all* bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with *all* malice" Eph 4:31 - What is your working definition of bitterness, gossip, or anger? How are these overcome in practical ways? What must we be doing beyond praying about it?

11. [Proverbs22:24-25](#) tells us not to associate with an angry person, lest we learn his ways. What do you do if you're married to him or her?
12. Is it hypocritical to be kind to someone when you'd rather punch him?
Why/why not?

An unknown poet wrote
A careless word may kindle strife.
A cruel word may wreck a life.
A bitter word may hate instill;
A brutal word may smite and kill.
A gracious word may smooth the way;
A joyous word may light the day.
A timely word may lessen stress;
A loving word may heal and bless.