

Ephesians 4:17-32

1. Be aware

- 17 So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the **futility** (*devoid of truth, depraved, perverse*) **of their mind**,
- 18 being **darkened** (*covered with darkness, no light*) **in their understanding, excluded** (*estranged, alienated*) from the life of God because of the **ignorance** (*moral blindness*) that is in them, because of the hardness (*stubbornness, callous, dulled spiritual perception*) of their heart;
- 19 and they, having become **callous** (*passed feeling*), have given themselves over to **sensuality** (*unbridled lust*) for the practice of every kind of **impurity** (*impure motives, lustful living, wasteful use of resources*) with **greediness** (*desire to have more*).
- 20 But you did not learn Christ in this way,
- 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,

2. Be Transformed

- 22 that, in reference to your former manner of life, you **lay aside** (*to put off from oneself - middle voice*) **the old self** (*old nature, habits*), which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,
- 23 and that you **be renewed** (*spiritually transformed*) in the spirit of your mind,
- 24 and **put on** (*to sink into a garment, clothe*) **the new self**, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

3. Be Different

- 25 Therefore, laying aside falsehood, **speak truth** (*in all matters, about God*) each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.
- 26 **Be angry** (*be aroused to anger*), *Should circumstances arise to call for anger on your part, let it be as Christ's "anger" (Mark 3:5), without sin. Our natural feelings are not wrong when directed to their legitimate object, and when not exceeding due bounds.* and yet do **not sin**; do not let the sun go down on your **anger** (*wrath, indignation, rage - seething anger, exasperation*)
- 27 and do not give the devil an **opportunity** (*occasion for acting, power*).
- 28 He who **steals** must steal no longer; but rather he must **labor**, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.
- 29 Let no **unwholesome word** (*rotten, putrefied, of poor quality*) proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will **give grace** to those who hear.
- 30 Do not **grieve** (*bring sorrow, offend*) the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
- 31 Let all **bitterness** (*a root*) and **wrath** (*indignation: composed of anger, disgust, contempt, and resentment*) and **anger** and **clamor** (*outcry, as in controversy*) and **slander** (*blasphemy, evil speaking, railing*) be put away from you, along with all **malice** (*ill will, wickedness, desire to injure*).
- 32 Be **kind** (*mild, pleasant, gracious, good*) to one another, **tender-hearted** (*compassionate, pitiful, soft spot for, inward affection*), **forgiving** each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.