



Changed Life



Ephesians 4:17-24 (NKJV)

¹⁷This 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, ¹⁸having 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; ¹⁹who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Introduction

In pursuing the holy life God wanted for us, we need to put off our old self and put on the new self. It is not easy to give up (put off) bad habits like lying, stealing, and foul language. Sometimes some of these practices still linger even after we are saved. But we are to put an end to the practices of the "old man" and adopt the practices of the "new man."

Let us live the new man and renounce the practices of the old. Just as the Christian principles for living are different from non-Christians, so are the practices.

1. They all affect our unity in the body—living in community. Those old practices destroy unity.

2. If we practice holiness, we will live according to God's command and will.

3. Every practice to "put off" is accompanied by a practice to "put on." The practices of the old man have to be "put off" before the practices of the new man can be "put on."

4. Every command is accompanied by a practical reason.

A. Speaking Truth... Not Lies

Ephesians 4:25

Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

In the Christian life, truth takes the place of lying; trust takes the place of mistrust; and honesty takes the place of dishonesty. To lie to another member of the body of Christ is to deceive someone with whom we are inseparably bound together by the Holy Spirit (for we are members one of another).

Truth is the basis of Christian unity. You cannot deal with someone who lies to you. There is no basis for a relationship. Lying is a serious problem. If we are going to "put on the new man in true righteousness and holiness", we must speak the truth with each other in love.

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you

want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

Matthew 5:37

But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

B. Exercising Self-Control... Not Anger

Ephesians 4:26-27

²⁶"Be angry, and do not sin"; do not let the sun go down on your wrath, ²⁷nor give place to the devil.

Angry people usually lose control over themselves and this causes rifts in the body, tears us apart, and quenches the work of the Holy Spirit. Anger is an emotion that does not characterize the new man, but that does not mean that Christians ought not to be angry at all. The point here is, "If you become angry, do not sin."

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Rev. Dr. James C. Sy
Administrative Pastor



Isang pamilyang pinagbuklod NG PANGINOON

WE ARE ONE FAMILY
UCF FAMILY
Camp 2024
Believe in the Lord, you and your household will be saved.
Acts 16:31

Dalawang araw na puno ng kagalakan at kasiyahan na nagmumula sa Diyos ang naranasan ng mga nagsipagdalo sa taunang UCF Family Camp noong Marso 30-31.

Pami-pamilya ang dumalo sa isang masaya at makabuluhang gawain kasabay ng pag-alala kay Hesus sa nagdaang Semana Santa. Tiyak na kanilang babaunin ang bawat laro, kainan, kuwentuhan at higit sa lahat, ang natanim na Salita ng Diyos sa kanilang mga puso. Mula sa mga pastor ay naibahagi ang Salita ng Diyos sa mga bata hanggang sa mga matatanda.

Purihin ang Panginoon sa gawaing ito na hindi lamang nagdala ng tuwa, kung hindi ay naging oportunidad din upang mas makilala pa ang Diyos!

Group Chant

Buong kagalakan namang nagpasiklab ang bawat grupo at pamilya sa kanilang *group chant*. Naging malikhain sila sa kanilang paggawa kaya't dulot nito ay kasiyahan sa bawat dumalo sa programang ito.



Kinagiliwan ng lahat ang mga maiiksing sayaw at group cheer na nagpakita ng kanilang pananabik sa mga programa.

Acts 10:2
(NKJV)

A devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.

Praise & Worship

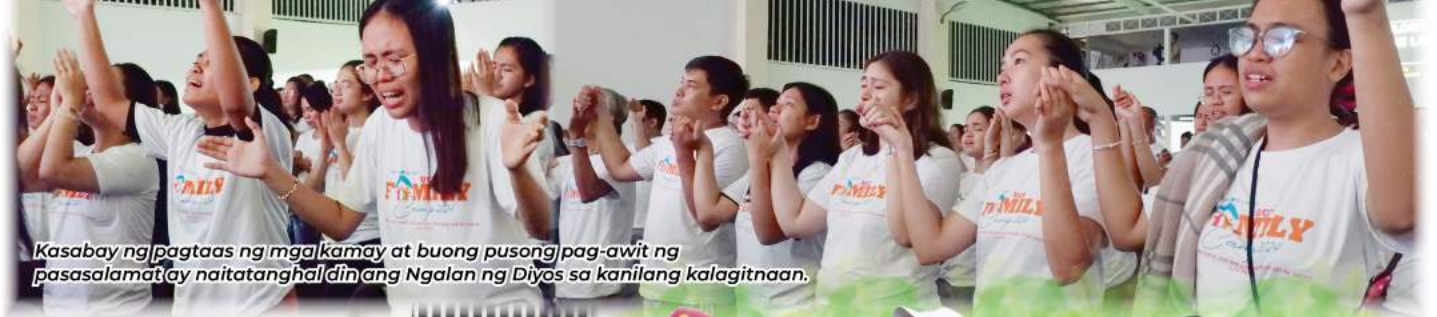
Nagsimula ang gawain sa pagpupuri sa Panginoon kung saan ang bawat pamilya ay nagbigay ng pasasalamat sa Diyos na Siyang nag-ingat sa kanila. Pag-alala sa Kaniyang mga pangako at pagtitiwala ng buong puso ang ipinahayag ng bawat anak ng Diyos.



Walang hihigit pa sa kapayapaan at kagalakan sa presensiyang Panginoon. Salamat ng panahon ay hindi titigil ang Kaniyang mga anak sa pagluwalhati sa Kaniya.



Kasabay ng pagtaas ng mga kamay at buong pusong pag-awit ng pasasalamat ay naitatanghal din ang Ngalan ng Diyos sa kanilang kalagitnaan.



Kasabay ng paglalim ng gabi ay ang kanilang paglalim sa pananampalataya na ang Diyos ay buhay at tunay na nararanasan.

"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you."

Exodus 20:12
(NKJV)

GROUP Games

Sa buong araw ay napuno ng iba't ibang laro na humasa sa isipan at pagkakaisa ng bawat grupo. Sa bawat laro ay mas malalim na samahan ang nabuo at tunay na pamilya sa Panginoon!

Sinubok ang talas ng memorya ng mga nakiisa sa unang palaro na may kinalaman sa numero gamit ang kanilang facial expression.



Napuno ng masasayang tawanan sa naging relay game kung saan liksi at diskarte ng mga manlalaro ang nanguna.



Ang bawat grupo ay nagkaisa sa pagtatayo ng noodles at marshmallow tower na mayroong makabuluhang eksplanasyon kung paano ito binuo.

Proverbs 22:6
(NKJV)

Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

Sessions

Sa pangunguna ng ating mga pastor sa panambahan, ang session ay hinati sa tatlong grupo na binubuo ng *Adult Fellowship*, *Young Professional & Single Fellowship* at *Youth & Children Fellowship*. Ibinahagi sa kanila ang paksa patungkol sa kahalagahan ng pagkakaroon ng pamilyang nakasentro ang buhay kay Hesu Kristo. Mas lalong naunawaan ng lahat ang kahalagahan na ang matibay na pundasyon ng pamilya ay nasa Diyos.

Marami ang naging katuturan sa mga dumaang sesyon para magabayan ang bawat pamilya na i-angko ang kanilang buhay sa Diyos.



Maging ang kabataan ay nakinig ng maigi sa ibinahagi ng mga pastor na kanilang maisasabuhay sa kanilang pamilya.

Small Group

Sa pagbuo ng maliliit na grupo ay nakapagnilay-nilay ng maigi ang kapatiran sa Salita ng Diyos at napag-usapan ang kanilang mga personal na tanong. Sa pamamagitan nito ay nagkakaroon ng kaunawaan at pagkatanto ang bawat isa na ang buhay na kasama ang Panginoong Hesu Kristo ay napakahalaga.



Mas naging malalim ang pang-unawa ng kapatiran sa kahalagahan ng mga narinig nilang katotohan, kung saan tinutukan ang kanilang mga personal na lakad kay Kristo.

²⁰My son, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother. ²¹Bind them continually upon your heart; Tie them around your neck.

Proverbs 6:20-21
(NKJV)

Water Baptism

Bilang unang hakbang sa pagsunod kay Kristo, ang ilan sa mga kapatirang dumalo ay nagdesisyong talikuran na ang dating buhay at magkaroon ng bagong buhay sa ating Panginoong Hesus nang sila ay sumailalim sa pagbawtismo sa tubig. Kaya naman isang pamilyang sinalubong ng mga anak ng Diyos ang mga bagong bawtismo.



Isang kagalakan para sa mga anak ng Diyos na mayroon muling mga kaluluwang naidako sa paanan ng ating Panginoong Hesus at nagdesisyong sumunod sa kaniya sa pamamagitan ng pagbabawtismo sa tubig.



Ang naitanim na Salita ng Diyos sa kanilang mga puso ang nagbukas sa bawat mananampalataya upang sila ay magpabawtismo sa tubig.

MGA NABAWTISMUHAN SA TUBIG

1. Annyka Immanuelle Buella
2. Jonah Jade L. Cariño
3. Julius S. Barcenas
4. Kylie Mhae B. Baldonanza
5. Lara Mae L. Nadonza
6. Orlando P. De Sagun
7. Zhanna Fatima C. Manimtim



Photobooth

Nagkaroon din ng pagkakataon ang bawat nagsipagdalo upang magpakuha ng kani-kanilang mga larawan sa photobooth. Masayang sinariwa ng bawat isa ang naging pagtitipon sa nagdaang Family Camp. Kaya naman kita sa bawat ngiti ang babauning saya kasama ang pamilyang nagmamahal din sa ating Panginoong Hesus.



Psalm 133:1
(NKJV)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Fellowship

Bilang mga anak ng Diyos, tayo ay pinagbuklod ng wagas na pag-ibig ng Panginoon na Kaniyang ipinadama sa pamamagitan ni Hesu Kristo. Mayroon mang pagkakaiba sa edad, kasarian at estado sa buhay, ngunit mayroon lamang silang iisang hangarin—ito ay ibahagi rin sa mga nawawalang kaluluwa ang pagmamahal na una nilang naranasan mula sa Panginoon.



Kasabay ng masasarap na pagkaing inihanda sa bawat isa ay ang isang masayang pagkakamustahan at pagbabahagi ng Salita ng Diyos sa mga nagsipagdalo.



Sinigurado ng mga manggagawa na lahat ng dadalo ay uuwing masaya mula sa mga pagkaing inihanda sa munting salu-salo.



Nagtampisaw naman sa pool ang ilan sa mga dumalo na mainam ngayong summer.

And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.

1 John 4:21
(NKJV)

Flag and Torch Parade

Ang mga anak ng Diyos ay sama-samang naglakad sa Mt. Tabor hawak ang *banner* at *torch* bilang deklarasyon at pagselyo sa lugar na tanging ang presensiya lamang ng Diyos ang mamalagi rito. Kasama ang awitin at panalangin ay nagmartsa ang kapatiran ng buong puso na may layuning Siya lamang ang madakila at mapapurihan.



Idineklara ng bawat isa na ang kapayapaan, pagpapala at paggabay ng Panginoon ang kanilang tanging makakamtan.



Ang lugar ay sinelyuhan ng langis upang ang Banal na Espiritu ang patuloy na maranasan at maghari sa lupain.



Nag-alay ng pasasalamat at papuri ang bawat isa sa Panginoon sa Kaniyang katapatan at kapangyarihan sa buhay ng Kaniyang mga anak.

**Psalms 103:17
(NKJV)**

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children.

Awarding

Sa mga nakasisiyang palaro, nabigyan ng mga parangal ang mga grupo at indibiduwal na masayang lumahok sa mga aktibidad. Binigyan sila ng munting papremyo sa huling araw ng *Family Camp* sa kanilang husay at kooperasyon sa kanilang mga grupo. Ang mga larong ito ay hindi lamang isang kompetisyon bagkus ay kaparaanan upang sila ay magkakila-kilala.



⁶And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, Abba, Father!" ⁷Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Galatians 4:6-7
(NKJV)

Sunrise Worship Service



Isang araw muli ng pagdiriwang at pasasalamat sa Diyos ang ginunita ng UCF dahil sa katagumpayang nakamit ng buong panambahan sa nagdaang *Family Camp 2024*. Maagang gumising ang lahat ng mayroong pananabik na muling mapapurihan ang Diyos na dakila sa lahat.



Sinimulan ang gawaing ito sa mga small group prayer na pinangunahan ng mga manggagawa ng panambahan.



Tunay na sa Diyos ang mataas na papuri at pagsamba dahil sa Kaniyang kabutihan sa buhay ng Kaniyang mga anak.



Naipaabot ang pagpapalang mensahe ng Panginoon sa pamamagitan ni Punong Pastor Rev. Dr. William Sy.

Acts 16:31
(NKJV)

So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Testimonies

Kagalakan at kapahingahan sa presensiya ng Panginoon ang naranasan ng bawat pamilyang nakilahok sa *Family Camp 2024*. Dahil dito ay alay nila ang kanilang patotoo ng pasasalamat at papuri kay Hesu Kristo na Siyang sentro ng programang ito. Ang kanilang mga patotoo ay patunay na ang Diyos ay buhay at Siya ay nararanasan ng bawat kaluluwang lumalapit at nagmamahal sa Kaniya.

"Marami akong natutunan sa mga session, especially about parenting, pero ang take away ko is that children are heritage from the Lord. Ipinagkatiwala sila sa atin ni God at mayroon tayong responsibility sa kanila. May mga binigay din na pointers on how to raise our children at iyon ang babaunin ko sa camp na ito. And the most important is to lead them to God to have a personal relationship with the Lord and grow in faith. These activities taught us how to be in love with the Lord and how to raise a fearful and God-fearing family."



Mrs. Lorelee Quitay
Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Ang mga session ay malaking tulong sa amin bilang mag-asawa at sa aming mga anak. Sa pamilya, kailangan ang sentro aysi God. Kapag wala kasi tayo sa Diyos, mahirap magbigay ng example sa mga bata. Kailangan sa aming mag-asawa magsimula ang pag-set ng example kasi iyon ang susundin nila. Mahirap kasi magpasunod ng mga bata kung hindi nila nakikita sa kanilang mga magulang ang magagandang asal na turo ng Diyos. Nagpapasalamat kami sa UCF na naging kabahagi kami nito."



Lito Borilla
Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"I thank the Lord for this day dahil binigyan Niya ako ng privilege na makasama sa Family Camp para mas matuto pa at mas ma-mold ako ng Word of God kung saan malalaman ko ang purpose Niya sa akin. Marami akong natutunan tungkol sa godly parenting kung paano magpalaki ng anak at kung paano itaguyod ang pamilya. Nagpapasalamat din ako dahil marami akong nakasalamuha at na-welcome ako sa church."



Jona Jade Cariño
Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Nagpa-water baptize ako dahil gusto kong makasunod sa kagustuhan ng Panginoon sa aking buhay at lalo't higit ay mapalapit sa Kaniya. Gusto ko na rin maiwanan ang nakaraang buhay ko at gusto kong baguhin ang aking buhay kasama ang aking pamilya."



Orlando De Sagun
Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Marami akong natutunan in terms of parenting dahil magiging mother palang ako sa aking first baby. Saktong-sakto siya kasi ang daming tips na natutunan ko in terms kung paano mag-handle ng bata at palakihin bilang mabuting tao, at bilang mabuting Kristiyano. Marami kaming natutunan at marami rin kaming nakilala. Naging meaningful din ang Holy Week namin kasi nagkaroon ng worship. Nadagdagan ang time namin para kay Lord dahil sa pagdadasal at pagkilala sa Kaniya."



Beth Tambis
Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Ang na-share sa amin sa young professionals' at singles ay about love, courtship and marriage. Ang takeaway ko dito is when you are getting into a relationship, dapat ang goal mo is to have a future na godly family, to have a purpose sa relationship at hindi lang for the sake of union but to do the will of God."



Jona Mae Jimenez
Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Sa totoo lang, matanda na ako pero ngayon lang ako nakaranas ng ganito. Napakasaya pala lalo na kung kasama mo si God."



Dorathe Hernandez
Family Camp 2024 Attendee

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house, your children like olive plants all around your table.

Psalm 128:3
(NKJV)

"Ang key takeaway ko sa session ay about sa marriage at paggawa ng godly family. Lahat ng bagay ay dapat nakasentro sa Lord kasi Jesus is the way, the truth and the life, kaya ang lahat sa atin ay dapat si Jesus ang sentro. Natutunan ko rin to wait patiently and if will iyon ni Lord, it will be done. Ang gusto kong ipagpasalamat sa Lord ngayong Family Camp ay ang opportunity na magkaroon ng wisdom hindi lang sa mga activity kung hindi sa mga session about marriage and building a godly family."



Gio Lester Francisco

Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Nagpapasalamat ako sa Panginoon dahil na-experience ko ang Family Camp 2024. Ang natutunan ko, sabi nga ni Ptr. William, kailangang itala mo ang mga bata sa Panginoon. Noong bata kasi kami, nagtitiyaga ang nanay namin na dalhin kami sa simbahan hanggang kinalakihan na namin at hanggang ngayong nagkaanak na ako. Pinapakilala ko sa kanila ang Diyos at dinadala ko sila sa church kasi dadating ang panahon na sila naman ang susunod sa Panginoon sa sarili nilang desisyon at hindi dahil gusto ko lang."



Mary Ann Manimtim

Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Ako, bilang head ng family, kasama ang misis ko, ang unang worry namin before ay ang mga anak namin kasi hindi namin sila mababantayan 24/7. Dito sa Family Camp 2024 ay nabuhayan kami ng pag-asa na ngayon, ang aming mga anak ay magkakaroon ng mga kaibigan na hindi kami matatakot. Alam namin na ngayon ang kanilang mga magiging kaibigan ay may takot sa Diyos, ang gagawin ay kung ano ang mabuti at may pangarap sa buhay. Nagpapasalamat ako sa Panginoon dahil buo kami. Sa panahon ngayon, marami kaming nakikitang mga pamilya na nagkakawatak-watak. Naniniwala kami na ito ang pundasyon ng isang komunidad. Dito sa Family Camp ay nakita ko rin ang kahalagahan ng ibang tao na makakasama natin sa ating journey pabalik sa Diyos. Naramdaman namin ang presensya Niya."



Jojo Andal

Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"From youth session, Ptr. Moe taught us na si God dapat ang center ng family to be able to have a happy family kasi sobrang halaga po ni Lord sa buhay natin. Sinabi rin sa Bible na, 'Children, obey your parents in the Lord.' Hindi lang sa parents natin pero sa lahat ng nakakatanda sa atin."



Angel Salvador

Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Ang topic namin ay love, courtship at marriage. Ang isang topic ni Ptr. James na tumatak sa akin ay hindi dahil nagkagustuhan kayo ay magkakaroon na ng union. Kailangan ay si God pa rin ang center. Ang ending dapat ay godly marriage at hindi lang siya as union kasi pinag-isa kayo ng Diyos para mag-serve sa Kaniya."



Jeannette De Sagun

Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Ang natutunan ko ngayong Family Camp ay marami at talagang tumatak ang mga ito sa puso at isip ko. Ang mga sinabi ni Ptr. Moe ay malaking tulong upang mag-improve ako sa sarili. Ang pagtanim ng galit o sama ng loob ay hindi maganda. Kung ano po ang tinanim natin ay maaaring maging bunga po natin."



Maria Pauline Hernandez

Family Camp 2024 Attendee

"Gusto kong magpasalamat sa Lord kasi ito ang first Family Camp na nakasama namin si kuya. Super thankful ako kasi hindi nasayang ang pagkakataon. Alam kong may purpose ang Lord kung bakit kami napunta rito at kung bakit siya nakapunta rito. Ang naranasan niya ngayon, alam kong dadalhin niya hanggang sa pagtanda niya. Hoping na next Family Camp ay kasama naman namin sina mama at papa para kumpleto kami rito."



Jasmin Jimenez

Family Camp 2024 Attendee

**1 Corinthians 2:12
(NKJV)**

"I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty."

Pagsunod sa Tawag na maghanyag

Ang paglalim sa Panginoon ay sa pamamagitan ng patuloy na pagsasaliksik at paghahanap ng Salita ng Diyos. Ito ang siyang magbibigay ng kalinawan sa kalooban at tawag ng Panginoon sa buhay ng Kaniyang mga anak.

Kaakibat ng kaligtasan na ating natanggap buhat ng kamatayan ni Hesu Kristo sa krus ay ang pagsunod sa kalooban ng Diyos. Bilang pagsunod sa Kaniya, inilalaan nila ang kanilang oras at panahon sa pag-aaral at pagninilay-nilay sa Salita ng Diyos sa lingguhang Home Bible Church (HBC). Dito ay hindi lamang lalago ang kanilang pananampalataya, bagkus ay maihahanda rin sila sa mas malaki pang plano ng Diyos. Ang Banal na Espiritu Santo na humipo sa kanilang mga puso ang Siya ring sasama at magbibigay kalinawan sa Kaniyang Salita.

Buong pagtitiwala ang alay ng bawat isa sa Panginoon na Siyang magbubukas sa kanilang mga isip at puso upang ihanda sila sa mas malaki pang paggamit ng Diyos. Purihin ang Panginoon!

Ang mga dumadalos sa HBC ay lalong nagpapatuloy sa kanilang pag-alam sa katotohanan ng Salita ng Diyos.



HBC HOSTS:
Bro. Chris Medina & Bro. Olan De Sagun

HBC LEADER:
Rev. Morrell Estrellado

Purok 3, Brgy. Casile, Cabuyao, Laguna
Martes | 6:00 PM



HBC HOST:
Sis. Mia Mendoza Natividad

HBC LEADER:
Rev. Ricardo Jacob

Brgy. Calabuso, Tagaytay City
Martes | 2:00 PM

Ang gawaing ito ay bukas para sa lahat kaya naman nagiging patotoo rin ang pagkilos ng Diyos sa bawat tahananang nagbukas ng gawain.



HBC HOSTS:
Sis. Dorathea Hernandez & Sis. Elizabeth Mendoza

HBC LEADER:
Rev. Ricardo Jacob

Purok 15, Brgy. Dapdap East, Tagaytay City
Biyernes | 6:30 PM

Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.

Proverbs 23:22
(NKJV)



**1 John 3:2
(NKJV)**

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

Changed Life

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To paraphrase it, "Anger must be avoided at all cost, but if you get angry, do not indulge such anger so that you do not sin".

James 1:19-20

¹⁹So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; ²⁰for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Anger is sinful when it degenerates to hate, resentment, and bitterness; when it is prolonged and unchecked; and when it is marked by personal animosity. Anger can do irreparable damage in the body of Christ. It ought never to be displayed among the saints of God. It destroys harmony and causes broken relationships with our neighbor. Before it gets hold of you, unburden yourself before the Lord. Before it becomes a sin, judge it before God.

Sin can be avoided. Do not hold it over to the next day. Do not prolong it. Do not give place to the devil. Do not give the devil a foothold in your life. This is a strong motivation for not allowing anger to become sin. Satan loves to take a strong emotion like anger and make it part of your nature, to become a grievance or grudge or bitterness—an unforgiving spirit.

C. Working... Not Stealing

Ephesians 4:28

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

Thieves justify their actions by saying that it is owed to them: "Take what you can. You deserve it. It's owing to you." Sometimes we can adopt thinking like that

when an opportunity presents itself to balance the scales with someone who, we rationalize, owes us something. Perhaps you called in to work sick when there was nothing wrong with you, and you justified it that the company owed it to you. After all, it is in your benefit package. Why not take advantage of it? And besides, everybody does it!

Perhaps you steal time from your employer by talking when you should be working, taking an extra few minutes for lunch each day, talking on the phone with your friends during work hours, and using the Internet at work for non-employment purposes.

As new people in Christ, we should use our hands to work, and not steal: "but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good." The root causes of theft are laziness and selfishness. Those who are lazy have idle hands. Paul classified those who do not work as disorderly, busybodies. He told them to work with their hands and "if they will not work neither shall they eat."

2 Thessalonians 3:7-9

⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; ⁸nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, ⁹not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.

Those who are selfish steal from others for personal gain. They think only of themselves and what they want. They think the world owes them a living, and if others have what they want, they are justified in getting it by any means.

We should place a high value on hard work. Work is hard, but it

produces goods for the laborer's own family and for others in need. Work is a means of sharing, not for personal benefit but for communal benefit. The community of faith is to care for the needy.

Romans 12:13

Distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

D. Speaking Constructively... Not Destructively

Ephesians 4:29-30

²⁹Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Words have the power to either crush or build up. Speech that tears down is destructive because it corrupts. Destructive speech tears down the spirit of a person and destroys the soul. It harms God's people by defiling the mind, rotting the character, and decaying the moral. It is evil and unwholesome—the opposite of speech that is holy, good, and pure. Corrupt speech sounds rotten and putrefies the soul. It reeks of obscenities, abusive language, malicious talk, vulgarity, and destructive words.

But speech that builds up is constructive because it nourishes. It builds up our faith, strengthens unity, and enhances fellowship. It nourishes our souls and feeds our communion with God. Constructive speech is the language of the community of faith. It edifies and builds up the body of Christ. It provides encouragement, comfort, and good will.

What comes out of the mouth indicates what is in your heart, for "out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies."

Matthew 15:18-19

¹⁸But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. ¹⁹For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

Matthew 12:36-37

³⁶But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. ³⁷For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

Do not use destructive speech, but use constructive, edifying speech: "what is good for necessary edification." Our speech must not harm others, but instead impart grace to the hearers.

Colossians 4:6

Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

When we grieve the Holy Spirit through wrong practices of living, the communal life is disrupted in the church, for He is the Spirit of unity, indwelling and uniting all believers. So, don't think that you can act anyway you want and get away with it.

Every word, deed, and thought impacts our personal life and our corporate life. Lying generates mistrust and breaks relationships. Anger allows the devil to play havoc and to trap us in sin's snare. Stealing takes away from others and robs us of the privilege of giving. Evil talk corrupts communication and destroys spiritual power. Instead of speaking words that hurt, use words that heal. Instead of words that kill, use words that give life. The Holy Spirit has united us and hates discord among us.

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⁵having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1:5-6
(NKJV)

Changed Life

>> from page 15

Lying, inappropriate anger, stealing, and corrupt speech cause discord.

E. Showing Kindness... Not Animosity

Ephesians 4:31-32

³¹Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³²And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Kind people don't repeat malicious gossip, but they emphasize the good in others. Kindness to one another infers goodness of heart, Christ-likeness. To be tenderhearted is to be compassionate towards others. Forgiving one another involves acting in grace, just as God in Christ forgave you.

Let us put on these expressions of kindness which will nourish the community of faith.

Challenge

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. ¹⁴But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

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PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 (NKJV)

⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

SERMON NOTES

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.

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