

## **Ephesians**

### **Church Clothes**

**Ephesians 4:17-32** – <sup>17</sup>So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. <sup>18</sup>They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. <sup>19</sup>Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

<sup>20</sup>That, however, is not the way of life you learned <sup>21</sup>when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. <sup>22</sup>You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; <sup>23</sup>to be made new in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup>and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

<sup>25</sup>Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. <sup>26</sup>"In your anger do not sin"<sup>[a]</sup>: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, <sup>27</sup>and do not give the devil a foothold. <sup>28</sup>Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

<sup>29</sup>Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup>Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

## **Quit Living Like the World**

Ephesians 4:17-19 – <sup>17</sup>So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no

longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. <sup>18</sup>They are darkened in their

understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in

them due to the hardening of their hearts. <sup>19</sup>Having lost all sensitivity, they have given

themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are

full of greed.

## **Hard Heart -> Wrong Thinking -> Wrong Doing**

Mark 7:20-23 – <sup>20</sup>He went on: "What comes out of a person is what defiles them. <sup>21</sup>For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evils come from inside and defile a person."

## **Wardrobe Change**

**Ephesians 4:20-24** – <sup>20</sup>That, however, is not the way of life you learned <sup>21</sup>when you

heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in

Jesus. <sup>22</sup>You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old

self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; <sup>23</sup>to be made new in the attitude

of your minds; <sup>24</sup>and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true

righteousness and holiness.

**Colossians 3:9-10** – <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old

self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in

knowledge in the image of its Creator.

### **Specific Changes**

**Ephesians 4:25-32** – <sup>25</sup>Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak

truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. <sup>26</sup>"In your anger do not

sin"<sup>[d]</sup>. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, <sup>27</sup>and do not give the devil a

foothold. <sup>28</sup> Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing

something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

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for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who

listen. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the

day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander,

along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving

each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

## **Speak the Truth**

**Ephesians 4:15** – <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

## **Deal with Anger**

**Mark 3:1-6** – Another time Jesus went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. <sup>2</sup> Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus,

so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath. <sup>3</sup>Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."

<sup>4</sup>Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent.

<sup>5</sup>He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored. <sup>6</sup>Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.

### **Be a Producer**

**2 Thessalonians 3:10-12** – <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."

<sup>11</sup>We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. <sup>12</sup>Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.

### **Use Right Words**

**1 Thessalonians 5:11** – <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

### **Please the Holy Spirit**

**Galatians 6:7-10** – <sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.<sup>8</sup>Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup>Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

## Be Kind, Compassionate and Forgiving

**Luke 17:1-5** – Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are

bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. <sup>2</sup>It would be better for

them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause

one of these little ones to stumble. <sup>3</sup>So watch yourselves.

"If your brother or sister<sup>(a)</sup> sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive

them. <sup>4</sup>Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to

you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"