

## Sermon Notes for August 24<sup>th</sup> 2025

Series: “Our Great Need for Christian Community”

Message: “Building One Another Up”

Sermon Text: **Ephesians 4:17-32**; Old Testament Text: **Psalms 25:16-22**; Gospel Text: **John 13:34-35**. Read **Ephesians 4:17-32 (below)** as you listen to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

**Ephesians 4:17-32:** Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. <sup>18</sup>They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. <sup>19</sup>They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. <sup>20</sup>But that is not the way you learned Christ!— <sup>21</sup>assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup>to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup>and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup>and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. <sup>25</sup>Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. <sup>26</sup>Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and give no opportunity to the devil. <sup>28</sup>Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. <sup>29</sup>Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup>Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

1. Read **Eph. 4:17-19**. According to this passage, what things are keeping the Gentiles from coming into a relationship with the Lord?
2. Read **Eph. 4:20-24**. What does the apostle Paul tell the Ephesians they must do in this passage?

How often do you think this has to be done?

3. Read **Eph. 4:25**. Why is it necessary to *put away* falsehood before we attempt to *speak the truth with our neighbor*?

What kinds of things would fall into the category of *speaking the truth with our neighbor*?

4. Read **Eph. 4:26-27**. Is Paul telling us it is a sin to be angry?

What must happen to turn our anger into sin?

What's Paul's remedy for preventing that from happening?

5. Read **Eph. 4:28**. According to Paul, is it enough for a thief to merely quit stealing?

What extra instruction does Paul include for the thief?

6. Read **Eph. 4:29**. Give some examples of *corrupting talk*.

What sorts of talk *builds people up*?

7. Read **Eph. 4:30-31**. According to this passage, what sorts of things *grieve the Holy Spirit*?

8. Read **Eph. 4:32**. According to this passage, what sorts of things please the Holy Spirit?

9. What will you remember most from this message?