

NOTES FOR THIS COMING WEEK: 9/21-9/22/2020

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: Ephesians 4:25-32

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7 PM MONDAY NIGHT & 7 AM TUESDAY MORNING ONLINE BIBLE STUDY MEETINGS: CONTINUING IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS!

Topic: Monday 7pm Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

NOTICE BEGINNING OCTOBER 5 (FIRST MONDAY IN OCTOBER) THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL RESUME IN IN CLASSROOM HS112, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Mon 7 pm!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763>

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)

Topic: Tuesday 7am Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

NOTICE BEGINNING OCTOBER 6 (FIRST TUESDAY IN OCTOBER) THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY WILL RESUME IN IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 Tues 7 am!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746>

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746
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OPENING PRAYER - Introduction

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption._

Holy Spirit Come (4:34)

Holy Spirit come. Holy Spirit come. Heal our hearts, our lives. Cleanse our thoughts, our minds. Holy Spirit come, Oh come to us!

Holy Spirit fall. Holy Spirit fall. Drench us with Your love. Fill our lives with peace. Holy Spirit fall, Oh fall on us!

Holy Spirit flow. Holy Spirit flow. Lead us in Your will. Empowered to proclaim Holy Spirit flow, Oh flow through us!

Holy Spirit come. Holy Spirit come. Heal our hearts, our lives. Cleanse our thoughts, our minds.

Holy Spirit flow, (3X)

Oh, flow to us! (4X)

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: Ephesians 4:25-32

Review: The New Man

Eph 4:24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

DO NOT GRIEVE THE SPIRIT!

Eph 4:25 Therefore, putting away lying, "LET EACH ONE OF YOU SPEAK TRUTH WITH HIS NEIGHBOR," for we are members of one another.

Eph 4:26 "BE ANGRY, AND DO NOT SIN": do not let the sun go down on

your wrath,

Eph 4:27 nor give place to the devil.

Eph 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.

Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

Eph 4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Eph 4:25 Therefore, putting away lying, "LET EACH ONE OF YOU SPEAK TRUTH WITH HIS NEIGHBOR," for we are members of one another. (Rom 12:5) so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

- **Let us now look at the his method of instruction:** first of all the negative injunction, ‘*putting away lying*’; then the positive injunction, ‘*speak truth with his neighbor*’; and then the reason for doing both, ‘*for we are members one of another*’.
- **Therefore, putting away lying!** – Literally, “stop lying”! The first thing included for the “new man, the born again Christian” is this lying or falsehood in general, lying by not speaking; by allowing something to be said which you know to be wrong; you can lie with a look. But why does Paul start with falsehood and lying? Doubtless for many reasons, but he gives us one which in a sense sums them all up, here in this verse. (*Jas 1:17*)
- **God cannot lie! That is God! God is the ‘Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning’.** What a tremendous statement! There is one thing that God can never do, He can never lie! *God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.* To be a Christian means that we have been brought into fellowship with such a God; therefore, we are to stop lying!
- **Stop lying, and let each man speak truth with his neighbor; Therefore, putting away lying,** because if you do not, you are conveying the suggestion

that you are still in the grip of the devil and that you belong to his kingdom. But that is not true of us as Christians!

- **Lying is the most prominent and the most common characteristic of the life of sin**, causing so much unhappiness, misery in this world and complications of life! You commit a sin; you do not want to be found out, so you tell a lie. Because you have told that lie, you have to tell another one to cover it; and on and on it goes, geometrically progressing!
- **"LET EACH ONE OF YOU SPEAK TRUTH WITH HIS NEIGHBOR," for we are members of one another!** We are to be like our Father and to tell forth His praises, to manifest His virtues and His glories. We do so by *putting away lying and speaking truth* one to another, thereby proving that we are indeed new men and women, that we are brethren, and children together of the living God - *for we are members of one another.*

Eph 4:26 "BE ANGRY, AND DO NOT SIN": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, (Psa 4:4) Be angry, and do not sin. Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still. (Psa 37:8) Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm.

- ***Be angry*** (righteously *angry*-continually; present imperative, a command) ***and do not sin!*** It is our duty to be angry in certain respects, but that we must never be angry in a sinful manner, never in a temper. There are times when we are meant to be angry, but never in a way that becomes sinful, and never in a way that opens the door of opportunity to the devil. How are these things to be reconciled? How do we work it out?
- **To prove that anger is not sinful**, and indeed something which is altogether right in and of itself, note what our Lord Himself said: (***Mar 3:5***) *And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.*
- **The wrath of God** – a term used often throughout the Bible. For example, (***Rom 1:18***) *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, (Psa 97:10) puts like this: You who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.* The two things go together: if you really love the Lord you must hate evil; evil and sin are to be hated!
- **We must get away from the world's sins**, learning to be angry about them, not being complacent, saying that sin does not matter! We must learn, says

Paul, to be really angry against iniquity and sin. God made us in such a way that that should be our natural reaction; it was the natural reaction of the Lord Himself; it is God's reaction to sin. How greatly this exhortation to anger is needed in the world today!

- ***Do not sin! that is, do not be angry in a sinful manner.*** We have been looking at the right kind of anger, we must now look at the wrong kind of anger. Notice that we are walking on a kind of knife edge. *Be angry, but do not sin!*'
- ***There is a wrong way of being angry.*** We must never be bad-tempered people, demonstrating any anger that is excessive, violent, out of control. That is entirely and utterly wrong. We have to know and to deal with ourselves, not being bad-tempered, irritable, people, not easily provoked.
- ***Let not the sun go down upon your wrath.*** Do it at once! Do not go to bed with this in your mind or your heart. Clear it at once. Paint the blood of Christ on it! Never go to sleep with a bitter, hateful, angry thought in your heart. Do not let these things have a lodging place to become a bitter, malignant hatred.

Eph 4:27 nor give place (territory) to the devil.

- ***How to deal with this sinful anger, this sinful tendency to lose control*** of ourselves and yield to the wrong type of anger? We must remember that such loss of control over ourselves belongs to the old man, the old life, and we are to put that off. Secondly, such loss of control always gives the devil his greatest opportunity. Never open the door to the devil, giving him territory!
- ***Summing up the whole position:*** Hate sin, always; hate sin in the sinner, always, but never hate the sinner! Both sides of the truth are absolutely essential. Sin must never be condoned or excused. Sin must always be condemned. ***"BE ANGRY, AND DO NOT SIN": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.*** We're to love! God is to judge!

Eph 4:28 Let him who stole (stop stealing!) steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, " (Act 20:35) I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

- **Why do believers have to be told to stop stealing?** Sometimes when a man is born again, he is delivered completely from certain particular sins without making any effort at all, but often we are not automatically delivered from all our sins and rendered immune to temptation.
- **The exhortations we find in the Epistle are necessary.** We are born as babes in Christ. We need instruction, we need to be taught, and to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. That is why these letters were written.
- **What does *stealing* mean?** It really means taking possession of and using as your own something that does not belong to you, appropriating something that is not yours, to serve your own ends and your own gratification. We can steal money, time, ideas, taking possession of anything that belongs to another and that is not really yours, giving the impression that it is yours. It shows a complete and entire lack of respect for others and their possessions.
- ***‘Let him who stole steal no longer.*** This is the Apostle’s exhortation. There is nothing, perhaps, that shows what a despicable and degrading thing sin is more than stealing. The Bible teaches the way to overcome sin is to see it for what it is, to despise it, saying that is impossible for a man who is a Christian!

that he may have something to give him who has need.

(Luk 3:11) He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise."

- **What does a Christian do with the temptation to steal?—let him work with His hands!** We are told not just to pray about it but are given a positive injunction, Stop doing it! *Let him who stole steal no more!* But how do you stop doing it? Recognize your guilt! Stop stealing. Then make your positive approach to the problem. Let him (the thief) steal no more—‘but *rather* let him labor (working to the point of fatigue), working with his hands the thing which is good’. This is truly a great word: let him labor, let him work!
- **Be concerned for others and their need.** ‘Labor, working with your own hands,’ says the Apostle, ‘the thing, which is good, **in order that he may have something to give him who has need.** Work because work is a good thing! Hold onto the money made and give to those who are in need, exercising any good that you can do. Be like the Lord Jesus Christ!
- **Giving! Others! Seeing need! Sacrificing!** It is the exact antithesis of stealing! Because we are new men, let us put off the old man, and let us

walk in the footsteps of our blessed Lord, who said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt (rotten) word proceed out of your mouth, what is good for necessary edification (building up), (1Th 5:11) Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

that it may impart (minister) grace to the hearers. (Col 3:16) Let 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.

- **Speech is vital and of necessity should receive great prominence** as we are dealing with the application of the truth to our lives. Speech is the distinguishing and differentiating factor in man's life. The thing that makes man, man, is the gift of speech and of expression. In this ability to express himself, we see the image of God in which man was originally created coming out most clearly. Man can think and reason and look at himself objectively. Animals cannot do that.
- **Speech is in many ways God's greatest gift to mankind**, so it's not surprising that it is the thing which is most misused. The devil focuses his attack upon that which is most precious in man. Sin always destroys first that which is best in us. There is nothing which is of greater importance than the power of speech, *(Mat 12:35-37) A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. [36] But I say to you that for every idle word man may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. [37] For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.*
- **The same formula is once again adopted:** first, a negative injunction, then positive injunction, and thirdly explanation. '***Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth***'; there is the negative. But what are you to do? '***but what is good for necessary edification***'; there is the positive. But why should you do this, what is the reason? The reason is, '***that it may minister grace to the hearers***'. We adopt the Apostle's own classification, for we cannot improve upon it.
- ***Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth.*** The Christian should be altogether different in this matter the non-Christian. One difference is that the ungodly is excess, and lacking control. They talk without thinking. They

are always talking. Being self-centered, the life of the unregenerate man is always selfish, and his speech is turned to an opportunity for self-display. For the sake of others, let none of this come out of your mouth. Stop doing that sort of thing!

- But further, ***Let no corrupt word proceed*** – Even as it enters your mind, beginning to form on your lips and your tongue, stop! If it has even arrived in your mouth, do not it proceed! Kill it, murder it, stop it! Never let corrupt words proceed out of your mouth, let them die upon your lips, for the sake of others.
- **What should proceed out of your mouth? *But what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart (minister) grace to the hearers***, as fits the occasion’. What, then, are the principles that are to govern my talk and conversation with others? Our conversation must be ‘good’, not *corrupt*. And to ‘good’ he adds *edification*, and to that he adds the benefit and result - *that it may impart grace to the hearers!* Whenever he speaks it must always fit the occasion, meeting people where they are. May anyone who has spent time hearing you speak with them be able to say, I feel better for having done so!
- **We are to behave like our Lord Himself.** How did He behave? (*Isa 50:4*) *"The Lord GOD has given Me The tongue of the learned, That I should know how to speak A word in season to him who is weary. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear To hear as the learned.* We are to help men and women by a word of encouragement, that will remind them that they are under God, and that if they are in Christ they are so precious to Him. May we help the weary and the infirmed, in all our life, but above all in our speech! ***Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.***

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve (quench, resist) the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

- ***And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*** Here he shows us what it should be. It is for His glory! That is why I must not do certain things. Not for ourselves, but for His sake! Our sanctification, our life, our conduct, is ever to be the realization and the result of what He has done for us, and of our sense of His glory and our desire to live to the praise of the glory of His grace.

- **The Holy Spirit has been given and dwells in the life of the believer.** The important thing to hold in our minds is that the Holy Spirit has been given to us and dwells within us. No man is a Christian unless the Holy Spirit is in him. (**Rom 8:9**) *But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.*
- **The Holy Spirit is a person and can be grieved!** We must realize that He is a Person! You cannot grieve an influence, a power or a principle. It is only a person who can be disappointed. We are in this relationship to the Holy Spirit; if we are Christians He is in us, He dwells within us! Wherever we are, He is in us and with us!
- **Only a believer can grieve Him!** An unbeliever can resist the Holy Spirit but cannot grieve Him. The only person who can grieve Him is one who belongs to the family and is in this personal relationship. I must realize the Spirit is in me and is always with me. My every action is known to Him, and it is possible for me to grieve Him, to disappoint Him, to sadden Him. That is the meaning of this term *grieve*.
- **How then do we, or may we, grieve the Holy Spirit of God?** Anything that we do which is not holy is grieving to Him. Anything which belongs to the flesh grieves the Spirit! We grieve Him not only in actual deeds or practices. We can grieve Him with our words. He is always with us, *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth.* You can grieve Him by your thoughts. An unworthy or an impure thought, a thought of anger, jealousy, or envy, grieves Him, hurts Him, as much as does the action.
- **We grieve Him by our failure to realize His presence within us, that He is always with us.** We are never to forget that the Holy Spirit of God is in us and with us. Do we honor Him? To fail to do so is to grieve Him!
- **We grieve Him in our failure to respond to His promptings and His leadings and His influences,** and all that He does in us and to us and upon us in order to further the work of sanctification within us.
- **We should not grieve the Spirit because He is who and what He is.** That ought to be enough! He is the third Person in the blessed, Holy Trinity, and He is dwelling as a guest within us, in our very bodies, ‘a gracious, willing Guest’. The very greatness of His Person ought to be enough for us.
- **Think of the ingratitude that we are guilty of when we grieve Him in any way.** Think of all that has been done for us; think of the planning of God in eternity; think of the subordination of the Son to the Father, and of the Spirit to the Son and the Father.

- **Another thing that grieves the Spirit is a complete failure on our part to understand the final object of salvation.** What is the final object of salvation? that my sins may be forgiven? It is the day of redemption! *‘Grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed until ...’*—that is the end! The grand end lies ahead. What is it? It is the day of the Lord that is coming. It is the day when Christ will come back and judge the world in righteousness, and destroy His every enemy, and when He will remove every vestige of evil out of the whole cosmos, and usher in His everlasting kingdom.
- **What then are we to do?** Simply this!—remember that the Spirit is always in you. Start your day by saying, I am a child of God, and therefore the Holy Spirit of God dwells within me. Wherever I may be, may have to do, may happen to me, He will be with me; my every thought, word and deed will be in His sight and in His presence. Remember Him, remember what He is doing in you. Think of the glory for which He is preparing you, and the things that grieve Him will become unthinkable.

Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness, (all) wrath (to blow up!), (all) anger, (all) clamor, (Col 3:8) But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. and (all) evil speaking (blasphemy) be put away from you (put it all away!), with all (not most, but all) malice. (Jas 4:11) Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

- **Especially remembering, “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit”** consider these next two verses! The spiritual growth verb tenses continue to indicate a progressive, continuing growth in the life of the believer!
- ***Let all bitterness be put away.*** *Bitterness* is a sort of persistent sourness, an absence of friendliness. It is an unloving condition, which never sees any good in anything, but always contrives to see something wrong, or some defect and deficiency. Put it away from you; that is the old man, that is the unsaved, unregenerate world, it should never appear in the Christian.
- ***wrath and anger are the forces frequently behind behavior.*** *Wrath* means violent excitement or agitation of the mind, a kind of boiling over, whereas *anger* is a more settled and regular state and condition of the mind. Anger is never at the same intensity as wrath. It is a more settled condition

of the mind and of the spirit. Wrath and anger tend to express themselves in speech.

- ***Clamor* means a kind of rough fighting, including shouting and violence.** Persons in a state of rage or of wrath do not speak to one another, they shout at one another, they lift up their voices. What a terrible thing sin is! It is something that should never be present in the life of the Christian, either in an individual sense or a corporate sense.
- ***Evil speaking, which is even worse than clamor*** is the cool, deliberate saying of things that are harmful to others. It includes the enjoyment linked with slandering others, deliberately saying or repeating things about others that are calculated to do them harm. *Evil speaking!* The unconverted world was like that two thousand years ago and is exactly like that today.
- ***Let it be put away from you! Put it away once and for ever***, realizing that it is a complete denial of everything that you claim to be and to have as newborn people in the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom the Holy Spirit of God has come to take up His blessed residence. He does not merely tell us to pray that these sins may be taken out of their lives. Pray by all means, but put them off, to put them far from them.
- ***With all malice, meaning wicked desires with respect to others***, a determination to harm them. It is a kind of settled spirit which so hates others that it thinks of ways of harming them, plots such ways, gloats over them, and then proceeds to put them into practice; it is a kind of malignity. Evil, malicious gossip and slander also form a part of this malice that he tells us all to put far from us.

Eph 4:32 And be (become, becoming) kind (more and more kind, useful to, helpful to) to one another, tenderhearted (compassionate)

- ***And be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another.*** Now we are given great wonderful positives. ***Kind***, the opposite of being bitter. Bitterness always takes from, it detracts, but kindness is that which gives, is useful, helpful and always valuable. It means being benevolent towards others, helping them to carry their burdens, to solve their problems and bear their difficulties. Always be on the look-out for an opportunity of showing benevolence and of giving
- ***Tenderhearted means, not in the calloused condition***, but sensitive to what has happened to others. You are concerned about other people. You can feel for them, being sympathetic towards others, and having a great heart of

compassion towards them. Indeed, you can see so much the troubles of others that you forget your own troubles!

- **How this word is needed so much in this modern world of ours!** It is pagan to being so self-centered that human responsibilities are avoided, and hearts hardened against the need of others. The unbeliever does not care for others; he is out for himself and his own enjoyment. Against all this, we need to give heed to Paul's word—'*become tenderhearted*'!

forgiving (opposite of malice) ***one another, even as*** (*here is the test*) ***God in Christ forgave you.*** (Mar 11:25) "*And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.*

- ***Forgiving one another***, realizing to the full, the wrong they have done, and then forgiving them. It means forgetting also. We are to forgive and to forget readily and freely, reasoning it out in terms of doctrine and theology, we begin to feel sorry for the man. The fact is that our heart has already become tender and kind towards him, resulting in forgiveness.
- ***even as God in Christ forgave you.*** Here is the reason why we should do this, or how we are to do this, the grand motive for it all! It means that if you forgive and are kind and are tenderhearted towards others you become like God. Our Lord put the same teaching in the following words: (**Luk 6:35**) *But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.*
- **He tells us to forgive others in this way because God has forgiven us.** A second argument. Notice that he does not say, 'Forgive one another because God is going to forgive you!' No, he says, ***even as God in Christ forgave you***'. It has most importantly happened! Only the people who will carry out this exhortation are those who know that God has forgiven them. Nobody else! But those who do know what He has done it, will forgive others.
- **Do you know that your sins are forgiven?** Here is a great test. Are you forgiving others? Are you ready to forgive others who have harmed you and sinned against you? As you read, '*And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*' Are you softened in your feelings? Do you feel melted? Are you ready to forgive at this moment? If so, you are a Christian.
- **The man who realizes the mercy and the kindness and the compassion that has cancelled his own great debt, says, 'I cannot refuse.'** His heart is melted, he has a sense of compassion. *Even as God for Christ's sake has*

forgiven you'! Has He done it for you? Then what God has done for you, you cannot refuse to another.

- ***Parable of the unforgiving servant (Mat 18:32-35)*** *Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. [33] Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' [34] And his master was angry and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. [35] "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."*
- **Last of all, consider the way in which God has done it. In Christ! That is the only way in which even God can forgive.** We are forgiven in spite of ourselves, not because of any merit or any goodness in us. God does it entirely of His own free grace; it is all of God! It is all of His grace! It is a pure gift; we were enemies, without strength, ungodly and vile and sinners. But God forgave us freely. You and I must do that to others who are vile and ungodly and enemies and hateful! ***Become kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.***

Closing Prayer

- Father, we thank You for what You have done for us and what You are doing for us. Lord, help us, that we might walk worthy of the calling wherewith we have been called. Help us Lord, that we would not walk as the world, but Lord, may we be renewed by Your Spirit. May we walk after the Spirit and the things that build up the body of Christ. Oh Lord, help us that we will be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another. We thank You, Lord, that You have forgiven us. Bless us Lord, and help us, Lord, that we might be everything that You would have us to be. Help us to find our place of service in the body. Help us, Lord, to fit into that place where You've called us. Help us to function, Lord, with the power of Your Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.