

“The New Life in Day to Day Practical Living”
“Ephesians”— Part 13
Ephesians 4:25-32

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
2 Corinthians 5:17

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
Romans 12:2

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.
Philippians 4:8-9

This is a message of applications:

1. Sensitivity to the Spirit changes the way we live.

- Take off lying and put on truth.

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body.
Ephesians 4:25

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.
Ephesians 4:15

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.
1 Peter 1:22-23

- Take off anger and put on emotional control.

"In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.
Ephesians 4:26-27

My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.
James 1:19-20

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.
1 Peter 5:8

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you...
James 4:7-8

- Take off stealing and put on honest labor.

He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. Ephesians 4:28

Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody. 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:18-19

- Take off unwholesome talk and put on encouraging talk.

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. Ephesians 4:29

Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:6

2. Sensitivity to the Spirit brings Him delight.

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

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not put out the Spirit's fire... 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19

- Take off hateful attitudes and put on loving actions.

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:31-32

- Kindness instead of bitterness
- Compassion instead of rage
- Forgiving instead of fighting and meanness

Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:19-21

Application: The question for Christians is always, who will rule my life? Will I be in control? Will the devil be in control? Will the Holy Spirit be in control? As a forgiven, cleansed, child of God, our greatest joy in life should naturally be to bring delight to the heart of God. Do you need a change of clothes? Where do you need the Holy Spirit to bring transformation to you?

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Stealing
Unwholesome talk
Hateful attitudes
Bitterness
Rage
Fighting and meanness

Put on

Truth
Emotional control
Honest Labor
Encouraging talk
Loving actions
Kindness
Compassion
Forgiving