

# EPHESIANS

4 : 25 - 32

## MORE DIFFERENT

### REALLY DIFFERENT

(EPHESIANS 4:25-32; PART FOUR)

Over the past few weeks, we've been learning that when you surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ as your God and Savior, the sin-dominated **old self** dies within your soul and a Jesus-directed **new self** comes alive within your soul. As a Christian, you've entered into a spiritual transformation process graciously directed by God Himself. **Ephesians 4:25-32** points out examples of these changes that our Lord is bringing about in us. These include our **talk** (what we say), our **temper** (anger), our **trade** (work), our **tongue** (how we say what we say), and our ability to learn from the divine **Teacher** (the Holy Spirit of God). In today's study, we'll see how **really different** we're becoming as even our **temperament** is getting changed by God, the more our new self learns to follow Him faithfully.

### YOU REALLY ARE DIFFERENT

### YOUR TEMPERAMENT

(vv.31-32)

1. (v.31) Adios to ...
2. (v.31) Adios to ...
3. (v.31) Adios to ...
4. (v.31) Adios to ...
5. (v.31) Adios to ...

6. (v.31) Adios to ...

7. (v.32) Activating ...

8. (v.32) Activating ...

9. (v.32) Activating ...

### WRAP-UP

You definitely are not ...

You are not yet all that ...

It is definitely time to live like the ...

### FOR THOUGHT & TALK

Take no more than 5 minutes to quickly review the main points from Pastor John's message. As you discuss the questions, don't expect to answer all of them. Just discuss the ones your group would most like to explore together. Remember, the goal of your small group is to grow together relationally, to **apply** God's Word to our daily living, and to pray for one another and our church.

1. Read over the full passage, **Ephesians 4:25-32**, in two versions. I'd suggest the NLT and the NASB. Pay especially close attention to **vv. 31-32**.
2. The Apostle Paul makes it abundantly clear that it is super important for each Christian to realize how really different God has **saved** you to be, **designed** you to be, and (eternally) **destined** you to be. Why is this true? Read aloud **1 Peter 2:9** and ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand this verse. How does Peter describe the "new self" that we are in Christ? What does it mean that we are called to **proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light**?
3. When it comes to our **temperament**, Paul says there are six different old-self characteristics to which the new self says "adios." Going down the list, why are these six traits so truly wrong? Which of these have you personally been hurt by and which do you most struggle with still doing?
4. Now take a look at the three positive life traits that the new self is being taught by the Holy Spirit. How, and with whom, do you need to be more kind? What does tenderheartedness look like coming from you? Why is forgiveness essential to following Jesus with freedom and joy?
5. Be excited, the day is coming when the new self is going to get a new, perfect body! If you have time, read aloud this passage from **1 Corinthians 15:40-57**. *There are bodies in the heavens and bodies on the earth. Earthly bodies are buried in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. Our dying bodies will be transformed into bodies that will never die! These mortal bodies will be transformed into immortal bodies! God's Scripture promise will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory." Thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. So, while you live in this mortal body, be strong in your faith and always work enthusiastically for the Lord!* What makes these verses so precious to you? How do you believe the Lord wants you to work enthusiastically for Him?