



EPHESIANS

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HOLINESS

PART THREE

“If people didn’t do what they did, you wouldn’t need this, but they do sometimes, so you do”

JEFF MANION

EPHESIANS 4:25-32 ESV

²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ 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.

EPHESIANS 4:25-32 ESV

²⁹ 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. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

“Our ability to handle conflict, to handle disagreements constructively, is the basis of a maturing and developing relationship”

DR ERIK ERIKSON



1. WE CREATE SPACE FOR EMOTIONS NOT SIN

EPHESIANS 4:26 ESV

²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

“I go further and say that there is a great need in the contemporary world for more Christian anger. We human beings compromise with sin in a way in which God never does. In the face of blatant evil we should be indignant not tolerant, angry not apathetic.

If God hates sin, his people should hate it too. If evil arouses his anger, it should arouse ours also. 'Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, who forsake thy law.' What other reaction can wickedness be expected to provoke in those who love God?"

JOHN STOTT

2. WE SET A TIME LIMIT

EPHESIANS 4:26-27 ESV

²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.

2. WE SET A TIME LIMIT

MATTHEW 5:23-24 ESV

²³ So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift...



3. WE ATTACK PROBLEMS, NOT PEOPLE

EPHESIANS 4:29 ESV

²⁹ 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.



3. WE ATTACK PROBLEMS, NOT PEOPLE

EPHESIANS 4:28 ESV

²⁸ 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.

“Before a thief was part of the problem, now in Christ,
part of the solution. They used to live to hurt people, but
now they live to help people.”

HADDON ROBINSON



4. WE LISTEN TO THE REFEREE

EPHESIANS 4:30 ESV

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



5. WE KEEP THE FIGHT CONTAINED

EPHESIANS 4:31-32 ESV

³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.



6. THE GOAL IS TO CLING TOGETHER, NOT PULL APART

EPHESIANS 4:32 ESV

³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted,
forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave
you.

“When someone repents, however weakly, we can resolve never to bring their sin up again before them, never to bring it up again before other people, and never bring it up again in our mind.”

COMMENTATOR