

# "Creating Harmony in Your Christmas Gathering"

#### **Ephesians 4:25-32**

#### Pastor David Gordon 12/17/2023—Christmas Eve Service

- 1. Speak the truth. vs. 25
- 2. Move on from anger. vs. 26-27
- 3. Share with the needy. vs. 28
- 4. Use your words to build up and encourage others. vs. 29
  - a. Don't talk too much. Hold your tongue. Proverbs 10:19, 13:3, 21:23, 29:20
  - b. Never use your words to hurt people. Proverbs 11:9
  - c. Think before you speak. Proverbs 15:28
  - d. Actively seek opportunities to truly <u>help</u> people with your words.

Proverbs 10:31, 12:18, 12:25, 15:4, 25:11

e. Don't throw fuel on the fire of conflict. Proverbs 15:1

Our sin makes God sad.

5. Rid your heart of sinful attitudes. vs. 31

### **Six Holiday Pests**

- a. <u>Bitterness</u>: Instead of displaying the kindness of the Holy Spirit, we hold on to a bitter attitude of resentment.
- b. <u>Wrath</u>: Instead of displaying the patience of the Holy Spirit, we lose our temper, and display hot anger in our words and actions.
- c. <u>Anger</u>: Instead of responding with compassion and understanding, we allow anger to determine our attitudes and actions.
- d. <u>Clamor</u>: Instead of a kind and gentle response, we respond with shouting or yelling.
- e. <u>Slander</u>: Instead of using our words to build someone up and encourage them, we say negative hurtful words to them or about them.
- f. <u>Malice</u>: Instead of praying for the person, and being committed to blessing them, our anger and unforgiveness drive us to hurtful words and actions.
- 6. Give the gift of forgiveness. vs. 32



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