

Speak the Truth - God is Truth

The Lord says this: 'I will return to Zion and dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the Lord of armies will be called the Holy Mountain.'

Zechariah 8:3

Anger?

"In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry. Ephesians 4:26

Tremble and (in anger) do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent. Psalm 4:5

"Anger destroys the posture of humility and chafes against surrender."

Gary Thomas The Glorious Pursuit p. 92

It's good to be angry about the things that anger God and step in where we can.

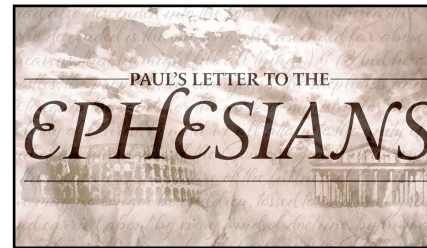
8 Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. 9 Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. Proverbs 31:8-9

"The new humanity comes first as a grace gift.
The behavior follows."

Tim Mackie

Community Group Questions:

1. What is the most important takeaway for you in this story?
2. How would you describe "the old way" vs "the new" to a friend?
3. How would you explain speaking truth in love? Righteous anger?



**Out With the Old &
In With the New**

Ephesians 4:17-5:2

Corbett Robertson - Sierra Community Church
February 25th, 2024

17 So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. 19 Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.

20 You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. 21 Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. 26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 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.

29 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.

30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

5.1 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 4:17-5:2 (NIV)

Old vs New

Credit: Tim Mackie

| The old humanity | The new humanity |
|---|---|
| take of your old human | put on the new human |
| of your former way of life | being renewed in the spirit of your mind |
| that is being ruined by deceptive desires | that has been created according to God in righteousness and holiness of truth |
| take of lying | speaking truth |
| anger | not allowing the sun to set on your anger |
| let the stealer no longer steal | work so that you can share with others |
| no rotten speech | speaking words that build others up and give a gift |
| no bitterness, anger, wrath, yelling, blasphemy | kindness, compassion, forgiveness |

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Ephesians 4:1

Becomes...

You must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.

Ephesians 4:17

Who is in Charge?

14 Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. 15 These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

James 1:14-15

Who is in Charge?

21 Although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles...28 Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. 29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. 32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

Romans 1:21-32

Speak the 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

These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts.

Zechariah 8:16