

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

EPHESIANS: *Awake, O Sleeper* - Ephesians 4:25-32 - Christlike Conduct - 03.17.2024

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. Take time to read through Ephesians 4:25-32 and consider how frequently the structure is, "don't do this! Instead, do this."
I shared some situations in my life where I did NOT obey these commands & the negative results that followed:
Can you think of any times in your life where you didn't obey these commands and the results that followed?
If so, how did the Lord ultimately use that situation to convict, challenge, and grow you in Him?
If not...are you sure? :) But sincerely, if not, how have you overcome those temptations when they've come?
What tangible steps can you take to walk in a manner worthy of your calling (as stated earlier in Eph. 4:1)?
How do these verses provide clarity as to what it looks like to walk in the ways of Christ as we're so called?
3. As you consider the first few verses, Paul addresses anger and speech:
What does it look like to be angry and yet not sin, and why is it so important to deal with our anger that same day?
What are the dangers of us letting the sun go down on our anger (see verse 27) and what can be the result in our hearts?
In verse 29, we're told about how we are to speak: in light of Luke 6:45, how does our new identity in Christ shape our speech?
How well do you feel you're doing in applying this verse as you consider your daily conversations with others?
Do you find your speech about others to be grounded in building them up or is it often tearing others down?
How can you personally grow in these areas of anger and speech to better give glory to God & build up the Body of Christ?
4. How do verses 30-32 provide such important content pertaining to the role of each person of the Trinity in our sanctification?
How do these verses encourage and motivate us to walk by the Spirit and, in doing so, walk in a manner worthy of our calling?
Why is it critical to remember the forgiveness that we've received from the Father in Christ as we live alongside one another?
Are there specific actions/patterns of which the Holy Spirit is convicting you that you need to confess & repent? Do so!

5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?

TWO POSSIBLE PATHWAYS IN LIFE:

WORLDLY WAY	CHRIST-LIKE WAY
Asks: "What's in it for me?"	Asks: "How can I serve you?"
<i>Speech patterns come out of what serves me.</i>	<i>I speak what's true & what's helpful for you.</i>
<i>Actions are carried out by what's best for me.</i>	<i>My actions are shaped by what's best for you.</i>
<i>When you wrong me I will hold it against you.</i>	<i>I forgive you because God has forgiven me.</i>