



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: Grace In Our Conduct - Ephesians 4:17 - 32

## GETTING STARTED

What is something that you picked up from a parent, coach, teacher or influential adult in your life that became part of your life?

Let's say you have a bad habit and want to change. How do you go about changing? Do you start with your mindset or your behavior?

## QUICK REACTIONS

- How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?
- What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?
- Did you disagree with something said, or what do you think should have been added or expanded on?

## QUESTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

1. Why is it important to remember who you are IN CHRIST? How does this simple truth inform how you live your life?
2. How would you define the "new nature" that Paul is telling us to put on as Christians? *Steve mentioned a good definition from Pastor Tim Mackie: "The version of you that is created to perfectly reflect the image of God."*
3. Steve mentioned a quote from John Stott in the message, "Self control is primarily mind control." How have you experienced this truth in your life?

## EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Ephesians 4:17-32]

Paul describes how the ungodly live. What are the chief characteristics of the ungodly? (vs. 17-19)

What 3 stages of transformation does Paul list in vs. 22 - 24?

Who is doing the renewing of your thoughts and attitudes? (vs. 23)

Is anger a sin? What is the sin involving anger? (vs. 26-27)

What does it mean to bring sorrow to or grieve the Holy Spirit? (vs. 30)

What is our motivation for forgiving one another? (vs. 32)

### Questions that help us understand the significance of the text to us?

1. Paul describes the life of those who choose to reject the message of Christ in vs. 17-19. Do you believe this view is accurate? How have you see this played out in the lives of non-christians in your life?

2. All the actions listed in vs. 25-32 have to do with relating to others. Why is it so important to Paul that we understand how to treat one another?
3. Why is it necessary to replace old, bad habits with new, God-honoring practices? How have you experienced this in your own life?

## APPLICATION

- What are some old habits in your life that need to go? What is God calling you to do and replace those old habits with instead?
- What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?
- What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of, pray about, as a result of engaging with this passage?