

Ephesians 4:25-32

The Christ-like Way of Interacting with People

> List the many topics that are addressed in these verses?

Lying, anger, stealing, speech, grieving the Holy Spirit, kindness, forgiveness.

> Is anger a sin according to verse 26 (explain)? How are we told to handle anger? Not in and of itself (at times there are good reasons to be angry), but anger can lead to sin if not careful. Do your part in resolving the reason for the anger immediately.

> What are two reasons for having a job according to verse 28? So we have what we need and are not tempted to steal from people, and so we are able to help others who are in need.

> How should our speech be described according to verse 29? It should edify and encourage people, not be hurtful.

> What three things should characterize us according to verse 32? Kindness, being tenderhearted, and forgiveness.

Application

The way we interact with people, whether we consider them our friends or not, speaks volumes about our faith.

> Why is it that we struggle with issues such as lying and saying hateful things? Because we are prone to selfishness, pride, and always wanting our way. Honoring God takes willful obedience.

> Why is learning to properly deal with others so important? It reflects on our testimony, reflects Christ, shows our faith is real, opens doors to reach people for Christ, etc.

In what areas do you struggle when it comes to dealing with people? Which of the above areas do you need to work on? The greatest way to *show* someone what Christ can do in a person's heart is to let them *see* the change He's done in you!

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