

## “Of Vices and Virtues... to Honor the Holy Spirit” 2/23/2020

### Ephesians 4:25-32

#### Sermon Series: *Living out God’s Riches for God’s Glory*

**Big Idea-** The previous sections 4:7-16 taught us that Jesus’ goal was to equip and build His church to increase unity, knowledge and spiritual maturity (4:12-13). The outcome would be doctrinal stability (v.14), truth acting in love (v.15), and to grow with mutual cooperation in love (v. 16). The purpose would be putting off our old life (4:17-20) and walking like Jesus in our new life (4:20-24). As we walk like Jesus our new life should reflect an avoidance of sinful behaviors in our actions and language. It should reflect kindness, tenderness and forgiveness with one another (4:25-32). When we walk unworthy, we grieve the Holy Spirit who indwells us (4:30; 1:13-14).

#### **LESSON 1-** Our new life should reflect a new pattern of WALKING

- A. Our new walk with God and each other includes HONESTY (Eph 4:25; Zech 8:16; Lev 19:18; Revelation 21:8)
- B. Our new walk with God and each other includes CONTROL (Eph 4:26-27; self-control concerning anger/bitterness; Gal 5:20)

#### **Proverbs 19:11 James 1:19-20**

- C. Our new walk with God and each other includes WORKING (Eph 4:28; no stealing; copyright infringement? 2 Thess 3:10)
- D. Our new walk with God and each other includes proper SPEECH (Eph 4:29-30; Colossians 3:8; 4:6; Matthew 12:36-37)
- E. Our new walk with God and each other includes no GRIEVING (Eph 4:30; 1:13-14; 2 Cor 1:22 (sealed); 1 Thess 5:19- quench)

- F. Our new walk with God and each other includes HARMONY (Eph 4:31; bitterness, wrath, anger, quarreling, slander)

#### **James 3:2-12**

- G. Our new walk with God and each other includes FORGIVENESS (Eph 4:32; kindness- Rom 2:4; tenderhearted- Phil 1:8; **Matt 18:23-35**)

**Application**     *God wants us to show our gratitude for all He has done by living our new life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in Holiness (separateness)!*

*Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples*

**Proverbs 19:11** A person's wisdom makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.

**James 1:19-20** Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.<sup>20</sup> Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.

<sup>2</sup> Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.<sup>3</sup> We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth.<sup>4</sup> And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong.<sup>5</sup> In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire.<sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.<sup>7</sup> People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish,<sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison.<sup>9</sup> Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God.<sup>10</sup> And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!<sup>11</sup> Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water?<sup>12</sup> Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring. (Jas. 3:2-12 NLT)

**Matthew 12:36** And I tell you this, you must give an account on judgment day for every idle word you speak.<sup>37</sup> The words you say will either acquit you or condemn you."