

BAD TO GOOD, PART 1



Notes:

1.

2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of February 3, 2019

Eph 4:25-28

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This weekend we learned about three practical applications of "taking off our old self and putting on a new self." Which of the three do you find most easy to accomplish? Explain.

2 Likewise, which of the three do you find most difficult to accomplish? Explain.

3 How can we overcome these difficulties and accomplish what God expects of us?

DIGGING DEEPER

1 **Zech 8:16-17, ESV** – ¹⁶ *These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace;* ¹⁷ *do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath, for all these things I hate, declares the LORD.*

Col 3:9-10, ESV – ⁹ *Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices* ¹⁰ *and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.*

When reading passages about God's desire for our relationships, we see that truth is foundational. Why is truth foundational to any relationship?

Why are people inclined to lying instead of speaking truth? How can we avoid these 'traps' in our lives?

2 *Ps 4:4-5, ESV – Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah*
⁵ *Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.*

Ps 37:8-9, ESV – Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. ⁹ For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

Jam 1:19-21, ESV – ¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Looking at the passages above and your sermon notes, how would you distinguish between right anger and wrong anger?

What practical advice do we find in these passages when dealing with anger? Describe a time when you have or have not dealt with your anger well?

Wrong anger, which is sin, can lead to pride, hatred, and broken relationships. What should we do if our anger has become 'wrong' and has caused a break in a relationship?

3 *Prov 21:25-26, ESV – The desire of the sluggard kills him, for his hands refuse to labor. ²⁶ All day long he craves and craves, but the righteous gives and does not hold back.*

1 Thess 4:10b-12, ESV – But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more, ¹¹ and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, ¹² so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.

2 Thess 3:10-12, ESV – ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. ¹² Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

Based on the passages above, why is it important to pursue honest work? How is honest work a benefit to the unity of the body of Christ?

In what ways has your honest work benefitted other Christians? In what ways could your honest work benefit other Christians in the future?

TAKING IT HOME

Change in our lives is an expected outcome of our new position in Christ. Simultaneously, the body of Christ is built up in unity as we remove bad habits and characteristics and replace them with Christ-like characteristics. What bad characteristics do you need to remove from your life and replace with good ones? Spend time confessing these sins to God, repent of them, and seek His strength to follow a new path in this area of your life. Share what God is teaching you with an accountability partner.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Mark 3:5

John 2:13-17

Acts 4:32-37

James 4:7

1 Peter 5:8-9