



Review

- Paul devotes the first three chapters of Ephesians to teaching us who we are as the church of Jesus Christ.
- **In the final three chapters, the Spirit reveals at least seven core commitments of membership that matters.**
 - 1.) Every member is committed to _____ (v. 4:1-6).
 - 2.) Every member is committed to _____ (v. 4:7-16).
 - 3.) Every member is committed to _____ (v. 4:17-32).
 - 4.) Every member is committed to _____ (v. 4:25-5:2).
- More than anywhere else, kindness rises and falls with our speech (James 3:2, James 3:8).

1.) Kindness requires us to be _____ with each o2.) Kindness requires us to _____ with each other (v. 26)

-- v. 26 – Literally = **“Be angry, but do not sin.”**

- Anger itself is not necessarily sin (Proverbs 8:13).
- Our anger, however, usually leads to sin (James 1:19-20).

-- **Three characteristics of unrighteous anger:**

- 1.) Anger is sinful whenever it is _____.
- 2.) Anger is sinful whenever it is _____.
- 3.) Anger is sinful whenever it is _____.

-- **Anger must be dealt with and dealt with _____.**

- v. 26 – **“Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry...”**
- Let go of anger born of personal pride.
- Let go of anger born of matters that don’t matter.
- Let go of anger born of matters you can’t change.

-- Intentionally and speedily resolve righteous anger in your relationships (Matthew 18:15-17).

-- **v. 27 – Unresolved anger gives Satan a _____.**

-- When we allow anger to stir in us, we are choosing to give Satan a grip on our souls.

-- Do not underestimate what is at stake with unresolved anger.

-- *Kindness in the church means everyone ought to be a peacemaker (Matthew 5:9, James 3:18).*

3.) Kindness requires us to _____ each other (v.

-- **v. 29a – “Unwholesome” = Corrupting = Words that tear people down.**

-- In short: Stop hurting people with your words!

-- While a gentle rebuke is sometimes necessary, a harsh rebuke is never right (Ephesians 4:2-3, Galatians 6:1).

-- **v. 29b – We are commanded to speak encouraging words.**

-- Let it be our goal to bless others with our words.

-- So many of us leave unsaid so much encouragement that could and should be spoken.

-- **v. 30 – Sinful speech _____ the Holy Spirit in us.**

-- Though God will never leave true believers, our sinful speech grieves His Spirit in us.

-- *Membership that matters never makes excuses for sinful speech.*

-- The life of love to which God calls His people to live rises and falls with our _____.

-- Membership that matters means that all of us who call this church home must be completely committed to kindness in all our speech.

-- Will you commit to kindness in speech for the glory of God?

ther (v. 25).

-- To lie to another person is a form of hatred (Proverbs 26:28).

-- **God calls the church to speak the truth in love (v. 15, Pro. 6:16-17).**

-- Silence in the midst of sinfulness is not love; it is _____.

-- While it may seem easier to ignore or gloss over sinful patterns, it is simply not loving (Proverbs 27:5-6).

-- Too many fellowships are destroyed by the fear of frankness.

-- We must love each other enough to speak the truth in love (Proverbs 25:12, Psalm 141:5, Proverbs 15:31).

-- Two types of speech forbidden in the church (v. 25).

1.) _____ – Saying to a person's face what you would never say behind his back (Proverbs 29:5, Psalm 12:2-3)

2.) _____ – Saying behind a person's back what you would never say to his face (Proverbs 18:8, Proverbs 16:28)

-- *Kindness in the church means everyone is committed to honest conversation.*