

<sup>20</sup> But that isn't what you learned about Christ. <sup>21</sup> Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, <sup>22</sup> throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. <sup>23</sup> Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. <sup>24</sup> Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

<sup>25</sup> So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. <sup>26</sup> And “don't sin by letting anger control you.” Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, <sup>27</sup> for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

*Ephesians 4:20-27*

### ***Discussion/Journal Questions***

Share something from the last couple of weeks that made you smile.

Have two or three people read Ephesians 4:20-27 out loud slowly. After some time of reflection, ask each other what words, phrases, or ideas stand out to everyone. What questions come to mind as you meditate on this scripture?

According to Ephesians 4:27, how does one give the devil a foothold in their life? Is Paul talking to Christians or non-Christians here?

What does it mean for the devil to have a foothold in someone's life?

In the sermon, Pastor John said, “Demons occupy space in our lives when we give them permission to do so.” What are some ways people give demons permission?

One way we give permission is through unconfessed and unrepentant sin. What sins are you struggling with that you have not fully confessed and repented of?

Occult practices involve seeking power, knowledge, or spiritual experiences from sources other than God. Have you had experiences with occult practices, even innocently, that you need to repent of?

How does unforgiveness open doors for demonic influence in our lives?

Read John 8:44. Jesus calls Satan a liar and the father of lies. How does the enemy use lies to gain influence over people?

The last area John addressed in the sermon is the area of generational sin. Do you believe that a parent can give permission for demons to affect a family line? Why or why not?

Do you see patterns in your family that repeat in each generation?

There is no stolen ground that Jesus cannot reclaim from the enemy. Pray for each other over these areas mentioned.