

# Lesson 1 Love in the Body

*Ephesians 4:29-32*

## THE TEXT • CSB

*29 No foul language should come from your mouth, but only what is good for building up someone in need, so that it gives grace to those who hear. 30 And don't grieve God's Holy Spirit. You were sealed by him for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, anger and wrath, shouting and slander be removed from you, along with all malice. 32 And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.*

## 1 Before Paul Says a Word About Speech Ephesians 4:17-24

Eleven verses separate the turn at 4:17 from the first command about the tongue. Paul lays a foundation first. Three actions, 4:22-24:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ your former way of life, the old self
2. \_\_\_\_\_ in the spirit of your minds
3. \_\_\_\_\_ the new self, created according to God's likeness

*Why does Paul put all of this before he gives one command about speech?*

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## 2 The Test of a Word Ephesians 4:29

Paul hands over a test rather than a list of forbidden words. Two questions:

1. Is it good for \_\_\_\_\_ ?
2. Does it \_\_\_\_\_ ?

*Foul* translates **sapros**. Jesus uses the same word of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*Building up* is the same word Paul already used at Ephesians 4: \_\_\_\_\_ and 4: \_\_\_\_\_.

Who is *someone in need*, in a congregation, more often than not?

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## 3 Someone Else Is Listening Ephesians 4:30

And don't \_\_\_\_\_ God's Holy Spirit. You were \_\_\_\_\_ by him for the day of redemption.

*Why does this sentence sit in the middle of a paragraph about speech?*

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#### 4 Six Things Off, Three Things On Ephesians 4:31-32

REMOVED • 4:31

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

PUT ON • 4:32

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
*chrēstos*
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
*eusplanchnos*
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
*charizomenoi*

Read the six in order. Which of them can other people see, and which can a person carry for years without anyone knowing?

The measure: “just as God also \_\_\_\_\_ you in Christ.”

#### 5 The Grace Thread Ephesians 4:29-32

One root, three times in four verses. The root: \_\_\_\_\_

4:29 **charin** “so that it gives \_\_\_\_\_ to those who hear”

4:32 **charizomenoi** “\_\_\_\_\_ one another”

4:32 **echarisato** “just as God also forgave you in Christ”

Which of the three is not a command at all? \_\_\_\_\_

#### 6 Looking to Christ Ephesians 5:1-2

Therefore, be \_\_\_\_\_ of God, as dearly loved \_\_\_\_\_,  
and walk in love, as Christ also \_\_\_\_\_ us and \_\_\_\_\_ himself for us.

Walk appears three times across this stretch of the letter: 4:\_\_\_\_\_ 4:\_\_\_\_\_ 5:\_\_\_\_\_

THE BIG IDEA, IN ONE SENTENCE

#### This Week

- ☐ One conversation this passage says needs to happen:

- ☐ Read Romans 12 before the next class. *Lesson 2 — Love and Gifts, Romans 12:3-8*