

Command to be Different

Because we are in Christ and members of one another we should be different in our . . .

Integrity (25)

- Speak truth (**Imperative**) “Be real” (one) (**Command**)
 - o Because we are members of one another (carries through) (**Reason**)
 - To deceive others is to hurt ourselves, because we are joined together as members of one another (two)
 - Paul is quoting from **Zechariah 8:16**
 - God’s plan and Paul’s message are consistent
 - Ephesians 4:11–16

Temperament (26–27)

- Do not sin in your anger (**Imperative**) (**Command**)
 - o Here Paul is pointing back to **Psalm 4:4**
 - o Anger in and of itself is not sin (Mark 3:5)
 - Application: Rule your anger, let it motivate you to right action not sinful action. (Illustration: I got angry at the scale)
- Do not let the sun go down on your anger (**Imperative**)
 - o Deal with it quickly
- Do not give the devil an opportunity (**Imperative**) (**Reason**)
 - o Avoid the opportunity to sow discord among the body
- Application:
 - o Proverbs 15:1

Labor/Work Ethic (28)

- No longer steal (**Imperative**) (**Command**)
 - o Be a good steward of time and resources
- Do honest work (**Imperative**)
 - o Glorify God in the way you work
 - o So that he has something to share (purpose is to aid one another) (**Reason**)

Speech (29)

- No foul (“rotten” like fruit) language should come from your mouth (**Imperative**)
 - But only what is
 - Good for building up
 - Someone in need
 - Better translation would be speech that helps meet the need.
 - **Are the words helpful?**
 - Wisdom and Timing
 - Illustration: Fall off the bike, get up and get back on. (Ramsey)
 - Gives grace
 - To those who hear

How do we obey these commands?

- Walk filled with the Spirit (30)
 - Do not grieve the Holy Spirit (**Imperative**) (**Command & Reason**)
 - You were sealed by Him
 - For the day of redemption
 - Signed, sealed, delivered. Complete!
 - We have a new purpose, the work of the Holy Spirit to point to Jesus.
 - Holy Spirit seals us and is himself the seal (Ephesians 1:13–14)

- Put off and Put on (31–32)
 - See 4:22
 - Be removed from you (**Imperative**) (31)(Notice Progression)
 - Bitterness
 - Wrath (outburst of rage)
 - Anger (settled anger)
 - Shouting (arguing)
 - Is their consistently conflict around you? Are you the common denominator?
 - Slander
 - Why do we feel the need to talk about others?
 - **Challenge:** Do not talk about anyone except to Jesus or to that person unless edifying/complimentary
 - Malice
 - Be kind and compassionate to one another (**Imperative**) (32)
 - See 4:24
 - Forgiving one another (Not imperative but carries the same weight)
 - Word means to be gracious (“excuse me”)
 - Just as God also forgave you in Christ
 - Notice the tense change