

# “The Gospel Fruit of Holiness”

Ephesians 4:17-32

The Book of Ephesians

**Theme:** The “tree” of God produces Christ-like fruit. The one is a natural consequence and by-product of the other. The people of God are holy because He is holy.

## Outline:

- I. **Their Hardness of Heart** (vv. 17-19).
- II. **Learning Christ** (vv. 20-24).
  - A. The Foundation (vv. 20, 21).
  - B. The Explanation (vv. 22-24).
    - 1. Put off what you once were (the old self [v. 22])
    - 2. Be renewed in the spirit of your minds (v. 23a)
    - 3. Put on what you now are (the new self [v. 24])
- III. **Living Inside Out** (vv. 25-32).

<u>Put off</u>	<u>Put on</u>	<u>Mind renewed</u>
Falsehood	Speaking the truth	For we are members one of another (v. 25)
Do not be angry	Do not let the sun go down	Give no opportunity to the devil (vv. 26, 27)
Stop stealing	Let him labor	In order to share with others (v. 28)
Stop corrupt speech	Use appropriate speech	In order to give grace to the hearer (v. 29)
Do not grieve		You were sealed (v. 30)
Put away malice	Be kind	As God in Christ forgave you (vv. 31, 32)

## Where do we go from here? Shepherding the Sheep: (What is the NEXT STEP?)

1. First, learn Christ. Learn who Christ is and what He has done and who you are in Him. This is the normal Christian life.
2. Second, by focusing on the gospel, on Jesus, you will be at peace with one another. There is no other way.
3. Third, if you find yourself trapped in a sinful pattern, seek out God’s ordinary means of Grace. This was brought out last week in our passage Ephesians 4:7-16. Go to church, surround yourself by the believing community, and continue to rest in Christ.

