

Question 1: In v. 25, Paul exhorts the Ephesians to speak truthfully to one another - to avoid all lying and falsehood. You'd expect Paul to then say something like, "For Satan is a liar," or "For we are called to be like God who always speaks truth." But, instead, he says "for we are members of one another." We know how speaking the truth benefits the body (convicts, sets free, encourages, etc.), but how does lying have a negative effect? Maybe we exaggerate how much money we make, or maybe we tell someone we prayed for them, when we didn't. How does lying hurt the people in your local church?

Question 2: Maybe you've heard someone say something like, "The key to a good marriage is this: Never go to bed angry!" And then they say, "The Bible says, 'Don't let the sun go down on your anger!'" But does that verse really mean all anger is prohibited by bedtime? If so, what if you get into a fight after the sun has gone down? What does it mean to "not let the sun go down on your anger?"

Question 3: When we think of v. 29 ("Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths"), we usually think of filthy language and crude joking (5:4). But corrupting talk is so much more than that. First: WHO is being corrupted by the "corrupting talk?" The speaker or the listener? And second: In what ways do we corrupt others through our speech?

Question 4: Pastor Tim talked about the various reasons Paul gives for the exhortations of vv. 25-33. Do a thorough listing of all those reasons/motivations. What can we learn from this?

Question 5: My favorite comedy of all time is "What About Bob?" Bill Murray plays the multi-phobic, extremely annoying, manipulative, needy counselee, Bob Wiley. Richard Dreyfuss plays the counselor, Dr. Leo Marvin, who has enthroned himself as God's gift to humanity and the paragon of self-composure. At one point, Bob Wiley's frustrating ways finally get the best of the Dr. Marvin, and he raises his voice at Bob. Bob sheepishly responds: "I've made you angry. I'm sorry." To which Dr. Marvin immediately shoots back: "No, no. I don't get angry." It's one of my favorite moments in the movie because it reminds me of how humorous we, as Christians, must look when we are in denial about our own anger, desperately hoping to appear self-composed to one another. Anger is one of the most misunderstood topics in the church. We wonder: Is it good? Is it bad? Discuss: Is it ever a sin to not be angry? And second: Why does Paul command us to be angry in v. 26 (it's an imperative), and then tell us to get rid of all anger in v. 31?