

WE ARE FPCM

INTRO: A Christian is not different purely because of what they believe, but because of how they live. In our modern, well-educated community we can easily confuse the Christian life with a quest for right doctrine. Believing the right thing, though, makes little difference if it does not become enacted in your life. It is easy to squabble over interpretations, but much harder to not let the sun go down on our anger. The renewing of our hearts and minds must produce a renewing of our character.

1. How should a Christian act? (Just throw out some examples.)

READ Eph 4:17-32

1. How is the non-Christian “futile in their thinking?” v. 17
2. How truthfully should we speak with our neighbor? V. 25
3. What unwholesome talk do you think v.29 refers to?

SERMON QUESTIONS:

1. What does how a person talks tell you about them?
2. List some characteristics of speech that builds one another up.
3. Why is speaking in that way so difficult for us? (Don't just say “sin”)
4. How does a desire to speak well to one another flow from the idea of the Body of Christ?
5. How is the Holy Spirit essential to the process of being made new?
6. In what areas of your life does your speech tend to be unwholesome or angry? What can you do?

OUTRO: You're a new creation and what you used to be is gone. You cannot go back. The Spirit of God has made you new. The Spirit has renewed your heart and mind, and from that flow your thoughts, words, and actions. The old you spoke out of anger, bitterness, resentment, pride and in the case of gossip, boredom. These do not build up the church but tear it down. Be the new you. Speak in love, in honor, in kindness, in compassion, and in forgiveness.

PRAY TOGETHER.

(Pray that the Spirit cause you to revile unwholesome talk.)