

**Learning to Walk in Christ**  
**Ephesians 4:17-32**

God's forgiveness in Christ should be seen in us  
He does not hold the offense against us  
His forgiveness is unlimited

**I. Appeal for Change - 4:17-19**

1. Basis for the appeal - 17  
Because of our new position in Christ - "Therefore"  
Because of authority of Christ - "I testify in the Lord"  
Because of the emptiness outside of Christ
2. Emptiness of paganism - 17-19  
Human mind is unproductive in area of godliness  
Alienated from the life of God - do not know Him  
Blinded, so incapable of seeing spiritual truth  
1 Corinthians 2:14  
Hardened against the Truth of God  
Ungodly lifestyle - lasciviousness, uncleanness,  
greed

**II. Acknowledge Change - 4:20-24**

1. God brought change to you in Christ - 20-21  
You did not come to know Christ through paganism  
It was God's truth in Christ that transformed you
2. Recognize change and live it out - 22-24  
Learn to say no to the old corrupt nature  
Allow God's Spirit to change your thinking  
Romans 12:2  
The new nature in you is God's creation  
2 Corinthians 5:17  
God works to produce righteousness & holiness  
As a new creation in Christ we can now choose to  
yield to the work of God's Spirit in us.

**III. Areas of Change - 4:25-32**

1. Learn to speak truth - our Lord is Truth - 25  
Lying does not fit with those who are of truth  
If we lie about other things we can lose  
credibility when we speak God's truth
2. Do not allow anger to become sinful – 26-27  
Anger is legitimate emotion intended to motivate us  
But it can become sinful when out of control  
We are to deal with the cause of anger promptly  
Sinful anger can open the door for Satan to work
3. God can change grasping into giving - 28  
One who steals takes what belongs to another  
A giver shares what he has with someone else
4. Our speech is vital to our ministry – 29-30  
Inappropriate speech does not fit God's people  
Speech can have a bad effect on relationships  
Our goal is to build up & minister grace to  
others  
Inappropriate speech grieves the Spirit of God
5. Kind, gentle, forgiving spirit is Christ-like.– 31-32  
A bitter, angry spirit grieves God's Spirit  
It is out of harmony with what He is  
It is divisive and against the unity of the body  
As God forgives us we need to forgive others

