

God's Grace In US

Ephesians 4:25-31

Clothes That Fit

- Truth-telling (vs. 25)
- Sinless Anger (vs. 26-27)
- Gainful, Godly Labor (vs. 28)
- Gracious Speech (vs. 29-31)

Bringing the Text to Light and Life

Words From the Heart That Help/Heal (vs. 29)

- The mouth reveals the heart.

Matt 12:34; 15:18

- God's grace works from the inside out
- If the gospel is not transforming your speech then you can be sure it is not alive and well in your heart.

Bringing the Text to Light and Life

Words From the Heart That Help/Heal (vs. 29)

- The mouth reveals the heart.
- Speech – reflects the image of God within
- Maggots or Gold?
 - Unwholesome / Corrupt speech
Like food gone bad...
 - Healthy / Constructive speech
Gives grace – imparts benefit

Is it helpful to the hearer to say this?

Is this the right time and place to say it?

Bringing the Text to Light and Life

Words From the Heart That Help/Heal (vs. 29)

Words That Bring God Pleasure (vs. 30)

- Behavior must be connected to truth
 - The truth is: the way we use our lips brings either pain or pleasure to God!
- The Holy Spirit is a person
 - Not a ‘force,’ a ‘phantom’ or an ‘it’ – but a ‘Who’!
 - He can be either pleased or grieved.
- Sin brings sorrow to the Holy Spirit

Bringing the Text to Light and Life

Words From the Heart That Help/Heal (vs. 29)

Words That Bring God Pleasure (vs. 30)

Words Better Left Unsaid (vs. 31)

- Bitterness = smoldering resentment
- Rage = explosive outburst
- Anger = long-standing animosity
- Clamor = voices raised in hostility
- Slander = speaking poorly of others
- Malice = general ill-will towards others

Bringing the Text to Light and Life

Words From the Heart That Help/Heal (vs. 29)

Words That Bring God Pleasure (vs. 30)

Words Better Left Unsaid (vs. 31)

- Most of the time we're wise to keep silent!
 - Prov 17:18
 - Prov 21:23

*Never pass up a chance to keep your mouth shut
unless you're speaking well of God or others!*