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EPHESIANS 4:25-32 **WALK WITH RESOLVE** WEEK 8

Resolve as used this week means to have solid determination to accomplish the goal in mind. None of us ever sets out to fail, however without the proper planning and "resolve" we in fact set ourselves up for failure. Think about it. You don't fill the bath tub with the drain open because it won't fill. Yet we attempt to live the life "filled by the Holy Spirit" all the while our spiritual strength is being drained away by practicing sin and bad habits. Our passage this week closes the drain (ie: put away falsehood), tells us how to fill up the tub (speak the truth) and even explains why we are taking the bath (for we are members one of another). Ok, corny analogy, but I hope you get the point. Paul is getting specific because he believes we are now mature enough to make these important changes in our lives. And we are....so let's get to it!

Let's Discover & Discuss: Ephesians 4:25-32

Recite Truth: How does falsehood hurt our membership with each other? ____

Why is truth so important to the body of Christ? _____

Evaluate Anger: When and why does anger become sin? _____

What were the things that angered Jesus? _____

What didn't Jesus get angry about? _____

What are the negative things that take place when we hang onto anger? ____

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As Christians in the twenty-first century, we seem to be doing everything but what we are called to do. Either we avoid speaking truth in fear of offending someone – or we speak the truth so coarsely that we don't display love at all, but cold, hard piety instead. God's way is the best way – tenderly speaking God's truth to one another. Rhonda Rizzo Webb

Share with Others: While this verse doesn't appear to apply to most of us, in what ways can we be better stewards of what God has entrusted to us? _____

_____

What is the criteria for sharing with others? _____

_____

Speak Life Words: Contrast "corrupting talk" and words that bring grace to those that hear. What do each look like? _____

_____

_____

Give an example in your life of one, the other or both: _____

_____

Do not Grieve the Holy Spirit of God: In what ways do we grieve (make sad) the Holy Spirit? _____

_____

If we continue to not be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading, what are we in danger of? (1 Thes 5:19) _____

_____

vv31 & 32 contrast greatly with each other. Give some practical ways that we as Christians can leave v.31 behind and apply v.32 _____

_____

_____

How is your RESOLVE to put on Christ-like qualities? HMMM? _____

_____

Key Verse This Week: *Ephesians 4:32*

Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you.

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