



## **REFLECT:** (20 minutes minimum)

10. Is lying ever OK? For example, would it be OK to lie to a murderer to save your family? To an abusive husband to keep him from finding and harming his family? To a family member to keep from hurting their feelings? Is there an underlying principle to your answers?

11. Research shows that people today value transparency (being who you really are without trying to cover up your faults or actions) more than ever. In what areas do you struggle today to be transparent with those in your life at home? at work? at school? at church?

12. When we forgive, do we really forgive or do we, in the words of a country song, "bury the hatchet but leave the handle sticking out"? How do we truly forgive someone who has injured us?

13. Summarize Paul's teachings in this section in as few words as possible (three words or less and you get to be first in line for the food tonight).

13. Make a commitment that you'll go 24 hours without getting angry with anyone... starting now!



**November 29, 2009**

Ephesians #11

## **CLOTHES THE DOOR**

*EPHESIANS 4:25-32*

*Remember that these questions are designed to generate discussion and application of scripture. A question may sometimes be worded in such a way as to generate discussion but don't take it as though a course of action is being suggested.*



## **OPEN:** (2 minutes)

1. When it comes to clothes, which of the following best describes you?
  - Bold and daring
  - Quiet and reserved
  - Bright and refreshing
  - Elegant and refined
  - New and fashionable
  - Old and comfortable
2. How has your style of clothes changed over the years?
3. The worst leftover turkey recipe I've ever had was...





**Read Ephesians 4:25-32**

4. What exactly is “unwholesome talk”? (v. 29) What sort of talk “is good for the building up of someone in need”?

5. How have your attitudes, actions and thoughts changes since turning your life over to God?

*Word Study:*  
“Unwholesome” (v.29)  
was used of spoiled or rotting fish. It was also used to describe stones that crumble.

6. **There is an emphasis in this text on how these things (telling the truth, being angry, working instead of stealing) impact the community of believers. Why do each of these things matter especially in our relationships in the church?**

7. In what ways does anger give “a foothold to the Devil”? (4:27) How can a person be angry and not sin? Are there things we should be angry about? If so, what?

8. Does Paul literally mean that you must not “let the sun go down on your anger”? (v.26) What does he mean?

9. **Can I forgive you if you don't ask me to? (See also Matthew 6:14,15) Why or why not? Who suffers if I continue to be bitter over an offense you haven't apologized for?**

*The Empty Chair:*  
Who can you invite to be part of our group next week?