

Truth in Love
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Text: Ephesians 4

Introduction:

We are called upon to _____ the truth in love without sinning in our _____.

Many of us learned to keep quiet as kids... to our _____ now as adults.

Caution: Our words are _____. Handle them with care.

We must learn a delicate _____.

1. Speak the _____.
 - a. _____ should we speak the truth?
 - i. To promote the _____. (vs. 20-21)
 - ii. To spur one another on toward _____ and _____ (vs. 13-15)
 - iii. To bring the body to _____ in the faith. (vs. 13-14)
 - iv. To point out _____ or ignorance. (vs. 14, 18)
 - b. What _____ you from speaking the truth?
 - i. People _____ tendencies?
 - ii. Speaking the truth can be _____.
 - iii. I just don't _____ the truth well enough.
 - c. How should we speak the truth? (vs. 2)
 - i. Be completely _____ and _____
 - ii. Be _____

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23 (HCSB)

2. Speak the truth in _____.
 - a. _____ should we speak in love?
 - i. To avoid _____. (vs. 26)
 - ii. To _____ the other to hear the truth. (8-12)
 - iii. To _____ up the body of Christ. (vs. 12, 16)
 - iv. To bring _____. (13)
 - b. What hinders you from speaking in love?
 - i. _____?
 - ii. _____?
 - iii. Unresolved _____?
 - iv. Unresolved issues?
 - c. Speaking truth in love is a gift of grace. (4:29)
3. Speak the truth in love without _____ in your anger.
 - a. _____ with the Lord.
 - b. Consider the person's heart _____:
 - i. _____, hard and closed, or
 - ii. Humble, soft and open to _____?
 - c. _____ your emotions and issues.
 - d. Don't allow your words or actions be dictated by their _____.
4. How do I speak the truth in love?
 - a. Keep the _____ in mind.
 - b. Be _____ of your own faults and failings.
 - c. _____ carefully.
 - d. _____!