

# Ephesians: Unsearchable riches of Christ

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## Study 22: Signs of Life (Part 1)

**READ** Eph 4:25-32 and Zechariah 8 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Craig Baxter's [sermon](#).

Christians are different to the world and are therefore called to live differently. To do this Paul tells us that we are to put off our pre-Christian way of living and put on our new self, created after the likeness of God (vv. 17-24). And now Paul takes doctrinal truth and practically applies it to everyday life in a series of six signs of new life that should be present in the believer. Each positive sign is matched with a negative prohibition and relates to how we live in the holy community of Christ.

**Main lesson:** A change from sinful behaviour to holy living is not only possible, but expected, on the basis of our new life in Christ.

### Questions:

1. Provide a clear definition for the word “falsehood” (v. 25) and state the forms in which falsehood can express itself.
2. How is the exhortation to “speak the truth with his neighbour” reflected in the nature and character of God? See Rom 3:4; John 14:6, 17; 15:26; 16:13.
3. How does immersion in the Word of God act as a safeguard against falsehood and a help toward living by and speaking the truth? Ps 25:5; 86:11; Acts 20:32.
4. A. How does lying or telling the truth affect “members of the same body”?

B. What might be some other reasons why we are not to lie but tell the truth?  
See Prov 12:22; Rev 21:8; John 8:44.

5. **Challenge question:** In v. 25 Paul quotes Zechariah 8:16. What might be the correlation between its use in Zechariah and its use in Ephesians?
6. Speaking the truth is not just relaying accurate facts, but also communicating truthfulness in every aspect of life. In what ways do you need to speak the truth to a brother or sister?
7. A. Identify examples of righteous anger and sinful anger from the Bible.  
  
B. What are the differences? How might I know if my anger is righteous?
8. What does “give no opportunity to the devil” (v. 27) mean? How does anger give the devil an “opportunity” or “foothold”?
9. What has encouraged or convicted you most in this study and what will you do?

### STOP AND PRAY:

**Praise:** the unchanging Lord of all truth, wisdom and righteousness

**Thank:** God for dealing with us according to His mercy through the blood of Christ

**Pray:** that you would have God's indignation toward sin and be a truthful person