

**Dig Deeper @Home – Better Together**  
**Complement to lesson on 02/13/22 – “Members Together”**

**ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered**

1. What is your favorite shirt? Outfit? Pair of socks?
2. Would you rather wear an outfit 2 sizes too small or 5 sizes too big?

**MEMORIZE – Ephesians 4: 11-13**

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

**READ – Ephesians 4: 17-32**

**Questions to ponder/discuss:**

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read these passages?
  - a. What sticks out to you?
  - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
  - c. Identify 10 questions you have about these verses  
Example question: Were Christians in Ephesus actively walking as Gentiles?
  - d. What is the passage revealing about God? About humanity?  
In light of these, what might God be calling you to do?
2. Paul encourages the saints in Ephesus to put off their old self and put on their new self. What does this mean, how do we actually do it, and how can you more intentionally do this in your life?
3. Read verse 32. How did God forgive us in Christ? Be as descriptive as possible. Now, how does your forgiveness of others compare? What needs to change to align with Jesus?

## **EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – Gifts in Action**

In verse 24 we are told to “put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.” This then is the aim of using our gifts ... in the likeness of God which as Paul says in verse 29 “good for building up.” If you didn’t take the Spiritual gifts inventory last week, that is ok. According to Paul, every person has an opportunity to build others up with something we all have ... mouths. If you’re like me, you say plenty of words in a day. The focus this week, speak only what builds others up. Are you up for this awesome challenge? I hope so. To use our words to put others down grieves the Holy Spirit (v30). This doesn’t mean we overlook faults or hurts, it means we craft our words to help people be who they are in Christ even when they are in the wrong. In fact, look again how Paul crafts his words to the saints in Ephesus in verses 17-20. Does Paul sound happy with the people? Do you think he approves of what they are doing? Rather than simply scold them, what does Paul do? How are these words encouraging?

So, go and do likewise this week, intentionally using your words only for that which builds up. And when you are having a tough time, pray to the Holy Spirit and He will help you and guide you to do it!

**SING** (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Yet not I but through Christ in Me - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zundjUFazfg>

Revelation Song - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsiDukXleVY>

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine – Mennonite Hymnal #207 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-l3crMBYP8>

## **PRAY**

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

## **Sending prayer based on the series:**

Go from here, knowing that the one who can do infinitely more than all we can ask for imagine is not only with us, but His power is at work in our midst empowering us with gifts to equip us for the work of ministry. As you walk in this confidence, know that the God who sends us, empowers us!