

*Living Worthy of My Calling, Pt. 11*  
**“The Stench of Self-centeredness Put Away”**

Ephesians 4:30-32

To live in a manner worthy of my calling,  
the stench of self-centeredness is to be replaced with a disposition of love and forgiveness.

**1. Put off the Old Life – the Old Ways**

v. 31

**(1) Those things which inevitably arise  
when self is at the center!**

*“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor,  
and evil speaking be put away from you,  
with all malice.”*

**(2) Inward and outward motions of the self life:**

-1- **bitterness** – a sour inward disposition

- an irritable state of mind because of:

- real or imagined offenses
- inconveniences! my little world disturbed! my “agenda” disrupted!

- a deep discontent with the circumstances of life

-2- **wrath, anger → clamor**

wrath = violent excitement – a kind of “boiling over” of the spirit (Gk: thumos), rage

anger = resentment, settled and dark hostility; an unsettled protesting spirit,  
pressing for revenge, retribution

clamor = angry shouting (the expression of wrath and anger)

-3- **evil speaking** = slander (Gk: blasphemia) – what is hurtful to the reputation of others

-4- **malice** = evil, hateful feelings (its opposite is “tenderhearted” in v. 32)

**(3) Let all such things be put away from you!**

-1- **“Put away”** - To pick up and carry away – to make a clean sweep

-2- **How?** - Identify it; confess it as sin;

- Reject it, turn from it

- Embrace the truth and have your mind renewed

- Put on the new life -- “Apply the expulsive power of a new affection” --

Chalmers

**(4) Be renewed in your thinking!** (from verse 30, just previous to this exhortation)

- **I am now to think and live as one indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God** v. 30

**2. Put on the New Life in Christ**

v. 32

**(1) A disposition of love!**

*“And be kind to one another, tenderhearted,  
forgiving one another;  
even as God in Christ forgave you.”*

-1- **“be kind”**

- lit: “keep on becoming kind”

- a disposition to do good and minister

-2- **“tenderhearted”** – a disposition of deep and mellow affection

-3- **“forgiving one another”**

- Instead of resentment and retaliation we are to pardon offenses!

- Faults will be committed and offenses will come

- Believers are to forgive them, are not to exaggerate them, but to cover them up from view.

**(2) Be renewed in your thinking! A specific truth to be embraced:**

- **I am now to think and live as one who has been forgiven much.** v. 32b

- The rule, measure, and motive of our forgiveness: we are to forgive as God has forgiven us!

- Think as one who has been forgiven **completely** cf. Matt. 6:12

- Think as one who has been forgiven **much!** cf. Matt. 18:21ff

**Further Application**