

Living Worthy of My Calling, Pt. 9
“The Pattern of Our Sanctification”
Ephesians 4:25-29

To live in a manner worthy of my calling,
I must address my own sanctification as Christ teaches me to do.

1. The Pattern Indicated [REVIEW]

vv. 22-24

(1) I Am to Put Off the Old Life – the Old Ways “*put off, the old man*”

- The way I formerly lived: the old patterns of thought and action

(2) I Am to Be Renewed in My Thinking “*be renewed in the spirit of your mind*”

- Sanctification centers in the renewal of my mind
- God renews the mind by the power of the Spirit working through the means of grace

(3) I Am to Put On the New Life in Christ “*and that you put on the new man*”

- Embracing by faith new patterns of thought and action

2. The Pattern Worked Out – 4 Examples

vv. 25-29

In each case: -1- A putting off of the old way of thinking and acting
-2- A putting on of righteous thought and behavior
-3- A principle of truth to be embraced according to renewed thinking

(1) Falsehood replaced with Truth “*Therefore, putting away lying,* (25)
“*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,
for we are members of one another.*”

-1- Put away all falsehood

-2- Speak the truth

-3- Be renewed in your thinking: Think now as one vitally joined to your brother.
- How I speak to my brother impacts the whole body of Christ!

(2) Anger replaced with Trust “*Be angry, and do not sin:* (26-27)
“*do not let the sun go down on your wrath,
nor give place to the devil.*”

-1- Put off anger

-2- Be careful to cultivate peace of heart before the Lord

- “Trust in the Lord” (cf. Ps. 4:4-5)
- “Meditate upon your bed and be still” be at peace
- Keep short accounts!

-3- Be renewed in your thinking: Consider the larger spiritual issues which are at stake!
- Anger is the enemy’s opportunity! Anger which goes
unaddressed

**(3) Theft replaced with Righteous Labor
and Generosity**

“*Let him who stole steal no longer, (28)
but rather let him labor,
working with his hands what is good,
that he may have something to give
him who has need.*”

-1- Put off stealing

- many forms of stealing!

-2- Labor diligently as unto the Lord

-3- Be renewed in your thinking:

- learn to think righteously in terms of labor
- learn to think not merely on your own things but on the needs of others

**(4) Destructive Speech replaced with
Edifying, Gracious Speech** “*Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, (29)
but what is good for necessary edification,
that it may impart grace to the hearers.*”

-1- Put off, put away all corrupt speech

- “corrupt” = rotten, putrid

-2- Put on speech which edifies!

-3- Be renewed in your thinking:

Consider carefully the power of speech as an instrument of grace!

Further Application