

# Sermon Discussion Guide

*Truth, Anger, and Generosity*

Ephesians 4:25-28

1. What stood out to you from the sermon?
2. Why is it so important that we speak the truth to one another? What are ways we are tempted not to speak truthfully? How does the gospel help us speak truthfully to one another?
  - It can be helpful to consider what is taught in the 9<sup>th</sup> commandment. The Heidelberg Catechism expresses it well:  
HC QUESTION 112. What is required in the ninth commandment?  
That I bear *false witness* against no one; wrest no one's words; be no *backbiter*, or slanderer; join in condemning no one unheard and rashly; but that I avoid, on pain of God's heavy wrath, all *lying* and *deceit*, as being the proper works of the devil; in matters of judgment and justice and in all other affairs love, honestly speak and confess the *truth*; and, so far as I can, defend and promote my neighbor's *good name*.  
  
Likewise forbidden: Flattery, gossip, vain-glory and boastfulness, scolding and abuse.
3. What are ways we are sinfully angry? What do verses 26-27 call us to do with our anger?
  - David Powlison says that anger's DNA is "active displeasure toward something that's important enough to care about" and good anger is the "constructive displeasure of mercy." How do these explanations help us as we consider honoring God in our anger?
  - Why is sinful anger so dangerous?
  - For a great treatment of this topic, see [Good & Angry](#) by David Powlison.
4. What are ways we may be tempted to steal? How does a biblical view of work help us put off this old behavior? What does this command remind us about the nature of gospel transformation?
  - For a great resource about a theology of work in the Christian life, see [Every Good Endeavor](#) by Timothy Keller.
5. What has God done about truth, anger, and stealing through Jesus? How does considering what these struggles will look like in the consummation encourage us in our obedience?