

# One- Relationally whole

## Sermon Notes

January 23, 2022

### Last week

- It's not about you.
- Truth, wisely spoken, leads to thriving relationships. (25)
- Anger can become a platform for Satan transform you to be like him. (27)
- Our words and deeds are to be for the building up of others. (28-29)

Read **Ephesians 4:22-32**

### Relational wholeness with the Spirit of God is essential to personal peace. (30)

- We were sealed in him—he is with us and in us. **Ephesians 1:13; John 14:17**
- It is a relationship that operates optimally when we yield to His leadership.
- Ultimately, we can delight him, and we can grieve him.

### We grieve the Spirit when we choose a destructive path in our relationship with others. (31)

- **Bitterness**—holding on to an offense to a point where the mere thought of a person galls you.
- **Rage and anger** become your default impulse towards another.
- We “**shout**” (better translation than “**brawling**”) down another person to be heard over them.
- Our words are used to lower the standing (**slander**) of a person before others.
- Our actions become intentional in seeking the failure (**malice**) of another.

### Harmony with the Spirit of God is evidenced in our relational wholeness with others. (32)

- Kindness is chosen as a response or action towards a person regardless of their attitude towards you.

- Compassion becomes the motive by which you engage others.
- Forgiveness is not withheld but freely given as one who has been forgiven much.

**There is a direct correlation between the health of your relationship with God and the health of your relationship with others.**

- Be proactive in settling matters with others before presenting gifts to God.  
**Matthew 5:21-26**
  - Sermon on the Mount was primarily concerned with getting beyond the surface and dealing with the heart.
  - You cannot fool yourself to think I can be right with God while I neglect brokenness with others.
- Be proactive in relational wholeness before participating in Communion which is meant to be a practice of unity before God. **1 Corinthians 11:17-34**
  - There is relational consequence between us and God when we fail to be unified in our participation of Communion. (29-32)

**James 3:9-10** *“With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God’s likeness. <sup>10</sup> Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.”*

**Questions to consider:**

1. Am I grieving the Spirit of God in me by the way I am currently treating people around me?
2. How am I doing in showing kindness, compassion, and offering forgiveness towards others—especially with those who are most difficult to love?
3. Is there someone I have malice in my heart towards that I need to reconcile with?