

SERMON NOTES JANUARY 18, 2009

Anger & Forgiveness

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Introduction: A review and application of principle

Text: Ephesians 4: 25-32

Main Idea: In verses 25-32 we find five exhortations to Christians regarding our conduct. Each one has three parts: a negative command, a positive command, and the reason for the positive command.

I. The Five Mandates for a relational life

- A. Stop lying – truth-telling as the basis for Christian community

- B. Stop losing control – keeping anger from becoming evil

- C. Stop larceny – don't steal but to work to share with the needy.

- D. Stop libeling – Speak good things as well as to do good things

- E. Stop leaving a “hurt trail” – a constellation of “relational stops”

II. The Five Motivations for a righteous life

- A. Body life – our place as neighbors; members of one body

- B. Battle issues – who our real enemy is

- C. Benefit sharing – there is always someone in need

- D. Building plans – living in light of our legacy

- E. Back-to-Cross basics – giving/forgiving out of the finances of Christ

Conclusion –