

Getting Started

1. What critical, mean or hurtful statement has stuck with you? What positive, uplifting statement? Why have they stuck with you?
2. What has been a highlight of your summer?
3. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Digging Deeper

4. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 112:

Q. What is the aim of the ninth commandment?

A. That I never give false testimony against anyone, twist no one's words, not gossip or slander, nor join in condemning anyone rashly or without a hearing.¹

Rather, in court and everywhere else, I should avoid lying and deceit of every kind; these are the very devices the devil uses, and they would call down on me God's intense wrath.² I should love the truth, speak it candidly, and openly acknowledge it.³ And I should do what I can to guard and advance my neighbor's good name.⁴

¹ Ps. 15; Prov. 19:5; Matt. 7:1; Luke 6:37; Rom. 1:28-32

² Lev. 19:11-12; Prov. 12:22; 13:5; John 8:44; Rev. 21:8

³ 1 Cor. 13:6; Eph. 4:25

⁴ 1 Pet. 3:8-9; 4:8

How does this play out in your life?

5. Read Ephesians 5:25-5:5. Paul outlines 6 concrete ways that Christians “put off” their old life and “put on” life in Christ. What are they?

Application

6. Speak kindly to someone today, especially if you were going to say something hurtful, mean or corrupting.

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · August 6, 2017

“Sticks and Stones”

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Ephesians 4:29

- **What we say to others and how we say it can be**

_____, _____ and _____.

- **What we say to others and how we say it can be**

_____, _____ and _____.

- **Give thought to what you say and may it be _____**

_____.

Topics: Kindness, grace, words