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PRAYER

God, we thank you so much that you meet humanity in our broken state with your undying love for us. We pray that you would shift our hearts towards those whom we may have thought to be completely unlovable. Forgive us for our ungodly biases towards people who are the same as us, and grant us compassion for those who are far from you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

Growing up, what was one place in the world that you DID NOT want to ever live? Why?

NOTES

WORD

²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbour, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.

³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamour and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

[EPHESIANS 4:22-32](#) (ESV)

GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 = not at all, 10 = absolutely strong), how would you rate your ability to relate to those who are completely different to you? Why have you rated yourself this way?
2. When people passionately hold convictions that are not godly, how do we speak the the truth with them?
3. When Paul writes to the church at Ephesus to put off the old self and put on the new self, what do you think he means? What does this look like in your life?
4. What are ways that we can be kind to those who hold completely different convictions and opinions to you?
5. Paul writes that we should forgive one another, as God in Christ forgave us. Have you accepted God's forgiveness? Do you find it hard to forgive those who have wronged you?

PRAYER LIST