

SERMON MESSAGE FOR MARCH 16/17, 2019

Pastor Scott Smith

PILGRIM

The Joyful Necessity of Spiritual Friendships

Ephesians 4:22-32 (p. 999)

THE MAIN POINT → God intends for Christians to be _____ of each other's _____. (Eph. 4:16)

HOW? BY ...

1. _____ and _____ my conversion. (vs. 22-24; 2 Cor. 5:17)
2. Telling _____. (v. 25)
3. Practicing _____. (v. 26-27)
4. Pulling my _____. (v. 28)
5. Speaking _____. (v. 29)
6. Treating others the way _____. (vs. 31-32)

THE CHALLENGE → To _____ in my spiritual friendships. (v. 30)



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EFCC Open Wi-Fi Password: **John3:16**

FROM MARCH 16/17, 2019 SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SERMON-BASED LIFE GROUPS

Personal preparation: Read the passage, review your outline, and think through the questions. With your group, watch the video blog together.

CONNECTING

1. What comes to mind as you think about words of affirmation and de-affirmation you have received over the years? What has stayed with you, for good and for bad? Why?

GROWING

2. Who are some of the people who have had a significant impact on your spiritual pilgrimage? Why and how?
3. Review your outline. On which point(s) did God really seem to focus your attention this week? Why?
4. Which of the points are probably easiest for you to do in your group? Why? Which of the points are probably hardest for you to do? Why?

SHARING

5. How would you answer this question, "One desire I have is to see our group grow in the area of _____." (Pick from Points 2-6 in the Outline). Why?

Pilgrim Week 11 Memory Verse

"Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you."

Ephesians 4:32 (NLT)

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(For Scripture messages and fill-in the blanks)

THE MAIN POINT: God intends for Christians to be **active parts** of each other's **spiritual pilgrimage**. (Eph. 4:16)

"... from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love." Ephesians 4:16

HOW? BY

1. **Remembering** and **responding to** my conversion. (vs. 22-24; 2 Cor. 5:17)

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." 2 Corinthians 5:17

2. Telling **the truth**. (v. 25)

"Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor."

3. Practicing **sinless anger**. (v. 26-27)

"Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity."

4. Pulling my **own weight**. (v. 28)

"He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need."

5. Speaking **life**. (v. 29)

6. Treating others the way **Jesus treats me**. (vs. 31-32)

THE CHALLENGE: To **please God** in my spiritual friendships. (v. 30)

"Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."