



**ONE  
ANOTHER SERIES**



# **Speak the Truth in Love**

**EPHESIANS 4:15–16**



**STUDY GUIDE**

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## **WELCOME:**

### Fixing Our Focus

#### **Suggested icebreaker:**

Ask each GG member whether they have a tendency toward emphasizing right and wrong over relationships or vice versa.

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## **WORSHIP:**

### Adoring Our God

#### **Suggested songs:**

- [Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me](#)
- [O Church Arise](#)

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### LESSON AIM

1. GG members will learn to balance both truth and love.
2. GG members will encourage one another for mutual growth.

### INTRODUCTION

The context of our passage is the unity of the body of Christ. In verses 1-6, Paul showed that believers should be united as one body. In verses 7-16, he showed that Christ gave believers diverse gifts that they may encourage and equip each other to exercise those gifts for the building up of the body of Christ toward spiritual maturity. As they mature, believers will no longer be susceptible to false teachings, but instead, they will be speaking the truth to one another in love.

### Believers should speak the truth in love (v. 15a)

In contrast to being spiritually immature, illustrated by Paul as a ship being tossed about by the wind and waves, those who are growing spiritually should speak the truth in love to build the body of Christ up to spiritual maturity. Speaking the truth is important, but when not done in love, may result in harm instead of good. Loving others is also important, but not to the point of condoning sin, for that would be of no benefit to them. There should be a healthy balance between the two.

1. In verse 14, to whom does Paul contrast those who speak the truth in love with? What is the importance of being able to speak the truth in love?
2. What would happen when believers speak only the truth, but not out of love, or when they love others to the point of ignoring what the Bible says is right or wrong? You may look at some biblical examples in Revelation 2:2-4, 19-20.

### Application

How can you balance both truth and love when interacting with fellow believers?

### Speaking truth in love results in the growth of believers and the local church (vv. 15b-16)

The outcome, when believers speak the truth in love, is spiritual growth, both for the individual as well as the community. This is in the context of believers exercising the spiritual gifts given to them by Christ.

1. What is the picture of a spiritually mature believer as described by Paul? (cf. Romans 8:29; 1 Corinthians 11:1)

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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2. How are believers equipped to grow spiritually? (cf. Ephesians 4:7, 11-12)
3. What happens to the local church when believers exercise their spiritual gifts? (cf. Ephesians 4:12)

### Application

How can you help or encourage fellow churchmates to make use of their spiritual gifts?

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### PRAYER ITEM

Pray for one another that you may learn to speak the truth in love, and that you may encourage one another to grow through the exercise of your spiritual gifts. Pray that our local church will continue to grow toward spiritual maturity so that we may spread the good news of salvation to those who have yet to hear it. ■



### Your feedback is important to us.

If you used this study guide in leading your growth group, please rate it at <https://bit.ly/GCFSGFeedback>. Thank you!



## **Greenhills Christian Fellowship**

**Know Christ and Make Him Known**

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