

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Ephesians 5:25-32

PAT NEMMERS

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Are you the type of person that enjoys buying clothes? If you're married, do you buy your own clothes or does your spouse? Do you buy brand-name clothes or are you a thrift store shopper?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat encouraged Christ-followers to dress for success by putting on the clothing that God supplies.**

Introduction:

- Read through Ephesians 4:17-24 from last week's message again. What are some sins or struggles that you "put off" this past week?

Put On These Clothes To Dress For Success:

1. **Stop lying and start speaking the truth (Ephesians 4:25)**
 - Where are some areas in your life where you might be tempted to lie to get ahead? Do you recognize that as lying or do you justify what you're saying somehow?
 - Paul highlights "the truth" in Ephesians. Who are some people in your Christian community that remind you to tell the truth? What might happen in your relationships if the truth is bent, avoided, or ignored?
2. **Control your anger and be careful of who you sleep with (Ephesians 4:26-27)**
 - What does it mean to be "righteously angry"? Talk about a few examples of righteous anger in the Bible. When you get angry, is it usually righteous anger or selfish anger?
 - Is there anyone in your life that you need to apologize to for your anger toward them (a spouse, a roommate, a child, a co-worker, etc.)? How will you make that right today or tomorrow?
3. **Stop stealing and start giving (Ephesians 4:28)**
 - One of our Saylorville Core Values is "Generosity: We will give what matters." Who are some people in your life that have invested in your life for eternity? Talk about two or three people who you can generously invest in as a way to impact eternity.
4. **Speak with grace, not garbage (Ephesians 4:29)**
 - Paul uses the word translated, "corrupting" to describe the words we sometimes choose to use. What might change in the way you speak if you thought of your unkind words as putrid, rotten, or rancid? Are your words putting healthy, fresh food on the table, or rotten and rancid food?
5. **Don't grieve God. Forgive one another. (Ephesians 4:30-32)**
 - Unforgiven hurt leads to hate. Is there someone you are beginning to resent or hate because they have hurt you in the past? What would it take for you to forgive them as Christ forgives you?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that God will strengthen you to put on the new clothes that He has given you to replace the old!

