

Series: Your Life in the Family  
Title: What are you talking about, Hillcrest?  
Date: March 29, 2020  
Text: Ephesians 4:29-5:2  
Speaker: David Bartosik



## **Big Idea**

Paul sets the bar rather high. As God's kids, we imitate our Heavenly Father who is holy, perfect, and completely righteous, and we must stop speaking and living in the way we did before we were adopted.

**1. Imitate God, impossible?**

**2. What you say matters.**

**3. We must be experiencing Jesus' infinite love.**

# Sermon Followup

**Game with your Group or family:** virtual Charades or Pictionary.

## **Warm Up Question(s):**

What have you been increasingly grateful for recently?

What is a recent example of someone who put their foot in their mouth? What is one of your best known “bloopers”?

## **WHAT:**

Start at 5v1. How is it possible for us to get near the high bar of imitating God? What does it mean to be imitators of God and why does Paul tell us this?

What are some specific examples of the kinds of speech that Paul is warning us away from in verse 29? What specific kinds of speech is Paul urging us towards? Do you have a more critical or encouraging tongue?

What is the power behind v32? What is Paul showing as the motivation behind our changed behavior?

## **SO WHAT:**

What are some examples of corrupting talk in your life?

What is at the core when we use corrupting talk that tears others down?

What are some examples of word that build up and give grace to those who hear?

## **NOW WHAT:**

Read Ephesians 4:29-5:2. List 2-3 ways in which you can give yourself up for others in your home or neighborhood that gives grace to those around you. Plan out how you will go about that this week.

**Prayer:** Ask God to show you areas of your thinking and behaving that grieve him. Ask God to empower you to make changes and better imitate the love of the Father and the Son towards others.