

A Letter to the  
Ephesians

Your Life in the Family

*Getting to the Heart of  
the Matter—  
Why We Do & Don't*

# Ephesians 4:20-28

## Ephesians 4:20-24

“<sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!— <sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”

## Ephesians 4:25-28

“<sup>25</sup> Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. <sup>26</sup> Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and give no opportunity to the devil. <sup>28</sup> Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.”

# BIG IDEA

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Because we are new, our Why shifts from self to others, reflecting God's love and trustworthiness in our lives.



Do not lie, but speak truth,  
to promote unity in the church

“Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.”

(Ephesians 4:25)

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Why do we lie?

I want....

...to make myself look better

...for people to like me

...to hide who I really am

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Why do we lie?

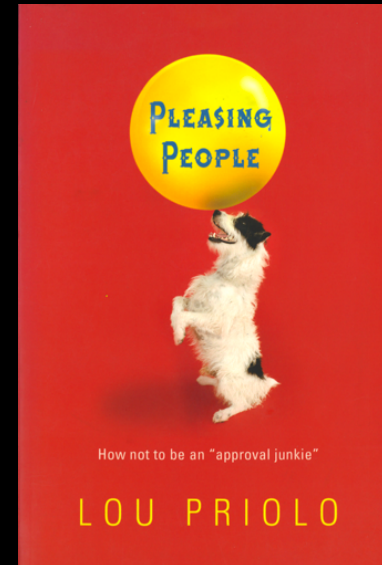
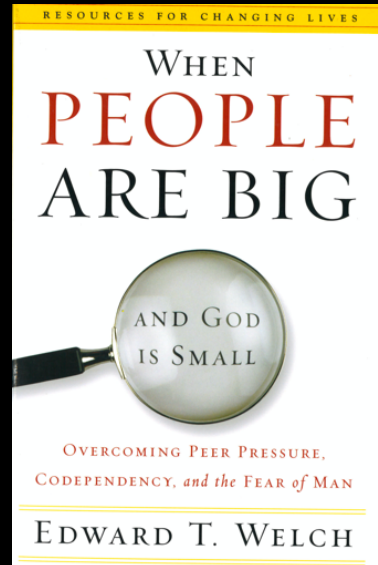
Because we fear man more than we fear God



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Because we fear man more than we fear God



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Do not lie, but speak truth,  
to promote unity in the church

Think of a time when you spoke truth with someone.  
How did that feel to be honest about yourself?

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Think of a time when you spoke truth with someone.  
How did that feel to be honest about yourself?

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Think of a time when you lied to gain favor  
with someone.

Why did you lie? What was so important to you?

Do not sin, but resolve anger  
to protect unity in the church

“<sup>26</sup> Be angry and do not sin;  
do not let the sun go down on your anger,  
<sup>27</sup> and give no opportunity to the devil.”

(Ephesians 4:26–27)

Do not sin, but resolve anger  
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“Anyone can become angry. But to be angry with  
the right person, to the right degree, at the right  
time, for the right purpose, and in the right way—  
this is not easy.”

-- Aristotle

Do not sin, but resolve anger  
to protect unity in the church

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(Ephesians 4:26–27)

Do not sin, but resolve anger  
to protect unity in the church

Why do you get angry?



Do not sin, but resolve anger  
to protect unity in the church

Why do you get angry?

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What draws you into sin?

Do not sin, but resolve anger  
to protect unity in the church

Why do you get angry?

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What draws you into sin?

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Do you trust God to handle the judgment  
and vengeance Himself?

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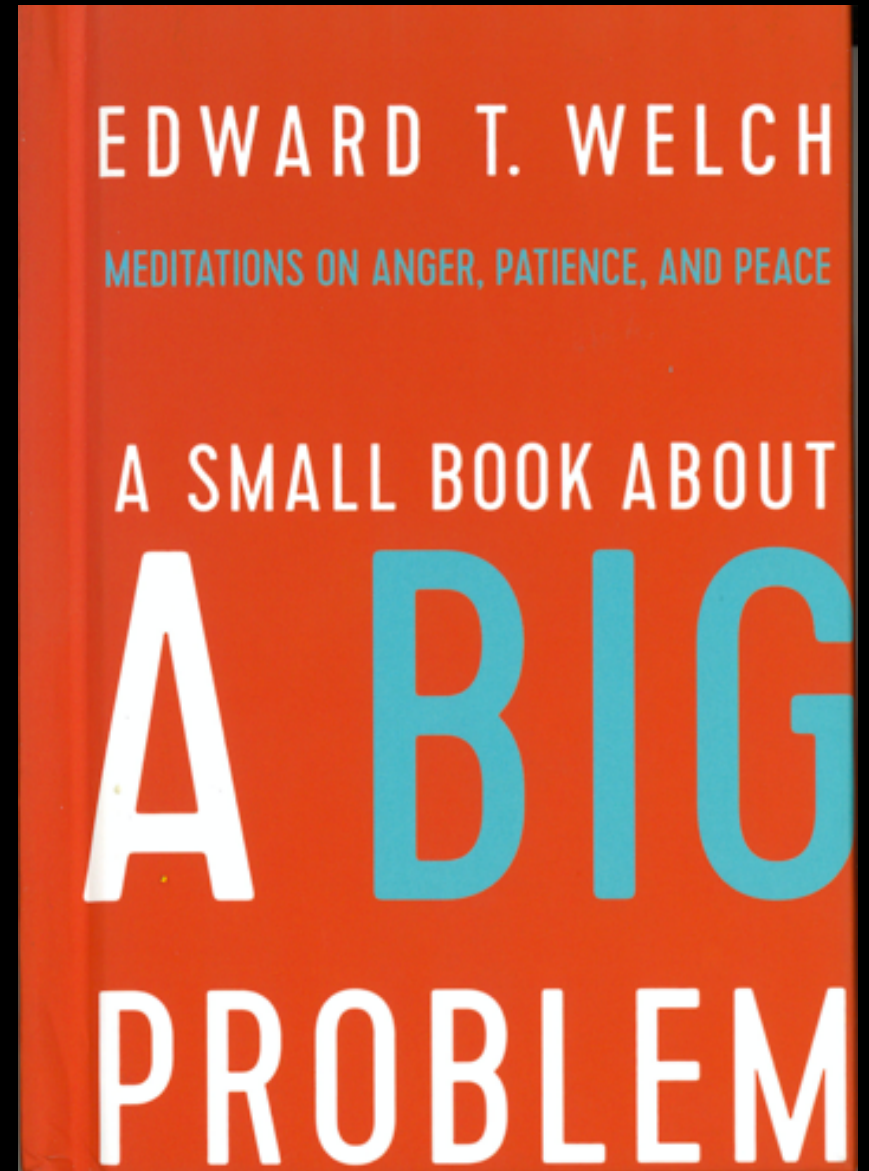
Do not sin, but resolve anger  
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Why am I still angry?

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Why is holding on to my anger more important  
to me than reconciling to protect  
the unity in the church?

Do not sin, but resolve anger  
to protect unity in the church



Do not steal, but work  
to provide for unity in the church

“Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.”

(Ephesians 4:28)

Do not steal, but work  
to provide for unity in the church

Why do we steal?

I believe my needs are more important than  
others' needs.

I do not trust God to provide what I need.



Do not steal, but work  
to provide for unity in the church

Instead, work to share with others.

Be a part of God's provision  
for someone in need.

Because we are new, our Why shifts from self to others, reflecting God's love and trustworthiness in our lives.

Do not lie, but speak truth to promote unity in the church.

Do not sin, but resolve anger to protect unity in the church.

Do not steal, but work to provide for unity in the church.

