

I'm really reluctant to turn on the news or log into the computer anymore. It seems that the issues of the day that get pushed to the top of my newsfeed are all related to controversial political topics. Friends on all sides of the issues are constantly arguing about whatever egregious thing people on the other side of the issues are doing now. It's hard to tell news from "fake news" and it makes you wonder what is truth and what is a lie. When the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Ephesus, he said " Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." (Ephesians 4:29 NIV)

It makes me wonder how much of what I read or hear meets Paul's Ephesians 4:29 test? Don't get me wrong, I'm a staunch supporter of the 1st amendment (and the other 9 in the Bill of Rights too) - I just hope that the rhetoric can be brought down a notch or 10. To say that our country has a wide diversity of opinions is probably the understatement of this new year. A healthy dialog is not only the foundation upon which this country was built, but the chief means by which we will heal our wounds. As Christians we have an obligation to make sure that our participation in this dialog meets the Ephesians 4:29 test regardless of the position we take on an issue.

Before you post (or repost) something about current events, make sure that your contribution reflects well upon you, your family, your church, and most importantly, your Savior. As Christians in 2017, let's show the world that we're part of the solution and not part of the problem.

David