

Gamma 11

Study 13

Ephesians 4:17-25

Section A (Exegetical Questions)

- 1. Why must there be a fundamental change in the way we live looking at v 17-19?**
- 2. What is Paul's strategy of effecting a change in moral behaviour and character? How is it fundamentally different from the Buddhist or Islamic approach?**
- 3. What does it mean to be renewed in the spirit of the mind in v 23**
- 4. Why must Christians live lives of integrity and not lie?**
- 5. How does one overcome the deceitful impulse of our hearts?**

Section B

Reflection Questions

- 1. What do you say to a person who insists that since he is saved by faith, it really does not matter now whether he lies or not his sins are forgiven anyway?**
- 2. In what subtle ways do we actually lie to ourselves ?**
- 3. How can we tell the truth in love ? give practical examples**

Section C

Case history

Gan Lek Goo was leader in a Baptist church who was active in the Boys Brigade serving as an officer there. There had been a lot of complaints from the some folk in the main church that the company had been lax in cleanliness and often left a mess for the care taker to clean up each Saturday. He listened enthusiastically and to these folk and agreed that the company had been rather lax in standards and pledged to bring it up to the officer corp. Once in the officer corp for discussion, the other officers were congratulating the company for such great performance at the state wide drills. The Captain exclaimed how pleased he was at the boys how responsible they were in cleaning up after themselves. Lek Choo felt embarrassed to rock the boat and kept silent. The situation festered over the next few months and one day the same group of unhappy church members brought up the matter directly to the Captain and he was rather concerned about the whole thing and asked then why didn't they bring up the matter sooner and let it fester so long and let bad feelings escalate? They said they did and pointed out that they complained to one of the BB officers which was Lek Choo. The Captain held a meeting to discuss the matter and incidentally asked which officer was it that was told of the feedback from the church. He asked "Apparently, one officer was told of this before who was it? " Lek choo turned red and kept quiet. Someone pointed that rumour had it that it was Lek Choo at which point she then promptly resigned "stating that it was not her job to bring these issues up and she did not have to put up with all this rubbish after all she was a volunteer and they should have been happy to have her serve at all and not persecute her!"

- 1. Why didn't Lek Choo bring up the matter at the officer's meeting?**
- 2. How was her silence interpreted? How is this a falsehood**
- 3. Which of the following words apply to Lek Choo and how do you justify your comments?**
 - A. Arrogant. B. Cowardly C. Seeks approval of others. D. Confused**
 - E. Sensitive. F. Forgetful. G. Apathetic**
- 4. Why did Lek Choo resign?**
- 5. How should she have handled the situation or criticism towards her? How would the gospel be helpful to her at the moment?**
- 6. Could the Captain have handled the matter in a better way ?**