



CULTIVATING OUR CULTURE

WEEK 1

A misty forest path with tall trees and a gravel road. The scene is atmospheric, with a soft, hazy light filtering through the trees. The path is made of gravel and leads into the distance. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The overall mood is serene and quiet.

Genesis 2:15 NASB

15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it

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Our Understanding of Cultivation.

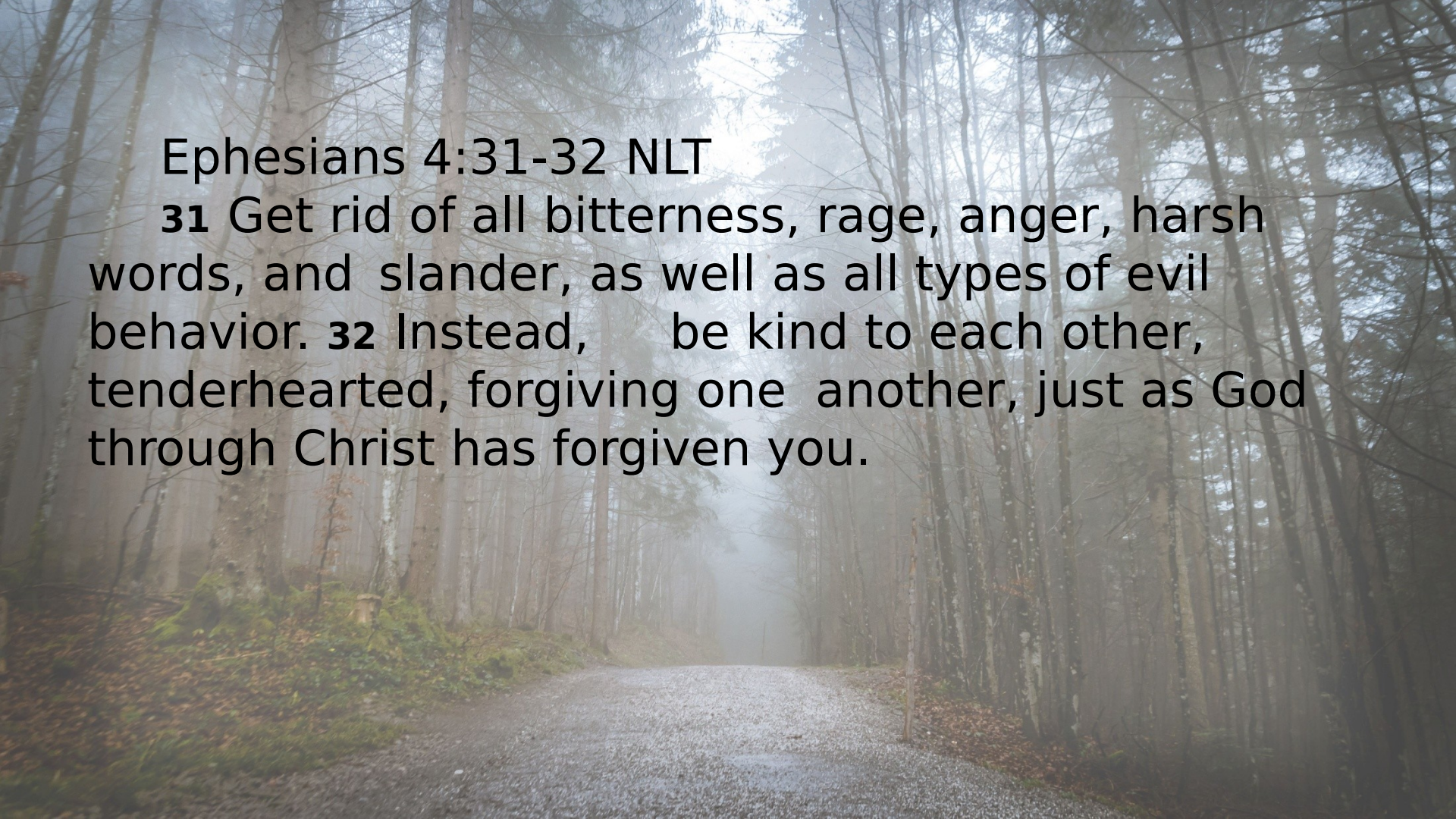
- We will work at it.
- We will give it special attention.
- We will encourage and foster it to grow.

I. As **family** we **go**.

We cultivate **relationships**.

Ephesians 4:1-3, NLT

Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. **2** Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. **3** Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

A misty forest path with tall trees and a gravel road leading into the distance. The scene is serene and atmospheric, with soft light filtering through the trees.

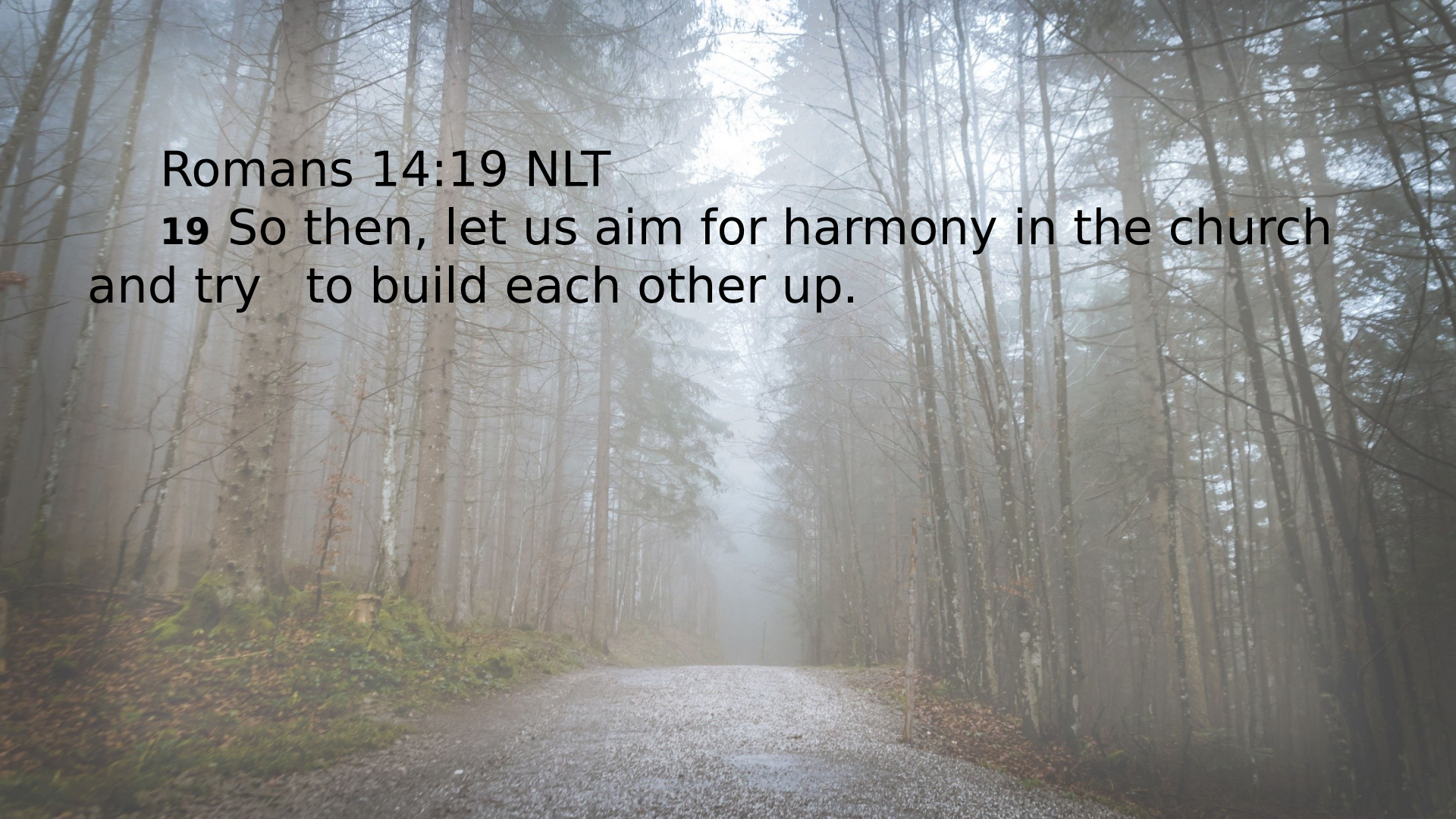
Ephesians 4:31-32 NLT

31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. **32** Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

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Hebrew 10:24-25 NLT

24 Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. **25** And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

A photograph of a misty forest path. The path is made of gravel and leads into a dense forest of tall, thin trees. The ground is covered in fallen leaves and moss. The atmosphere is hazy and serene.

Romans 14:19 NLT

19 So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.

II. It's **ok** to not be **ok**.

We cultivate **authenticity**.

Ephesians 4:21-24 NLT

21 Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, **22** throw off your old sinful

nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by

lust and deception. **23** Instead, let the Spirit renew your

thoughts and attitudes. **24** Put on your new

A misty forest path with tall trees and a gravel road leading into the distance. The scene is atmospheric, with soft light filtering through the trees and a layer of mist or fog hanging in the air. The path is made of gravel and leads towards a vanishing point in the distance. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Our Understanding of Authenticity.

An authentic person is one who is both privately and publicly putting off the old self and, by God's grace, putting on the renewed self.