

Sermon Discussion Guide January 12, 2024

Refresh

Read Ephesians 5:1-2 to get the Scripture passage back in your mind.

Discuss

How are Paul's words in Ephesians 5:1-2 building on what He wrote at the end of chapter 4?

How is Paul's command in verse 1 consistent with what God has expected of His people throughout Scripture? (I.e. Lev. 11:45; Lev. 19:1-2; Matt. 5:48; Lk. 6:36; 1 Pet. 1:14-16)

How could it be possible for sinners like us to imitate the Holy God?

In what ways is it impossible to imitate God? In what ways is it not only possible to imitate God, but it's commanded?

How does Paul help us to understand the warmth of his tone in this command? How does Paul's tone make this personal rather than cold? Why should that encourage us as God's children?

Why does Paul describe the love of Jesus when commanding us to imitate God in our love? How does the love of Jesus inform us of how we should love God and others? Spend some time as a group reflecting on the love of Jesus as revealed in the Bible.

Why do we often struggle to love God and others in a way that reflects God's love for us? How might focusing on Christ's love strengthen our ability to love God and others?