

1 **Men of Grace**

Ephesians 5: 1-14

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3 Ephesians 1:15-23 Overview

1:3-3:21 **OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN CHRIST**

1:3-2:10 New People by God's grace

- **1:3-14** God's Grace in Choosing Redeeming, and Sealing us in Christ
- **1:15-23** Prayer for us to know God and his Blessings
- **2:1-10** God's Grace in Giving us New Life in Christ

4 Ephesians 2:11-22 Overview

2:11-3:21

New Community through the cross

- **2:11-22** Theological Explanation of the New Community
- **3:1-13** Parenthetical Expansion of the New Community
- **3:14-21** Prayer for inner strength and love

5 Ephesians 4:1-5:21 Overview

4:1-5:21 New Standards of Morality

- **4:1-16**
Keep Unity in the Church and Grow the Church through Ministry
- **4:17-32**
Adopt a New Christian Lifestyle by Avoiding Worldly Behavior
- **5:1-14**
Live a Life of Love and Walk in the Light [This Week]

6 Ephesians 5:1-14 Outline of Today's Passage

5:1-7 Walk in Love

5:1-2 Principles

5:3-7 Practices

5:8-14 Walk in Light

5:8-10 Principles

5:11-14 Practices

7 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:1-2 Text

*Be imitators of God,
therefore,
as dearly loved children
and
live a life of love,
just as Christ loved us
and gave himself up for us
as a fragrant offering
and sacrifice to God.*

8 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:1-2 Principles

“Be imitators of God, therefore as dearly loved children...”

- **ADOPTION:** As Christians we are God's adopted children: “In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ...” [1:4-5]
- **OBEDIENCE:** “Be imitators of God...” [v. 1]; “Therefore, be Holy because I am Holy.” [Leviticus 11:45; 1 Peter 1:16]

9 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:1-2 Principles

***"live a life of love, just as Christ loved us
and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."***

JESUS: *Christ is our example*

LOVE: *We are called to sacrificial love like Jesus showed to us on the cross*

10 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:3-4 Text

But

among you

***there must not be even a hint
of sexual immorality,
or of any kind of impurity,
or of greed***

because

these are improper for God's holy people.

11 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:3-4 Practices

"Sexual Immorality": Sin in the body

"Impurity": Sin in the mind

"Not even a hint": Protecting church

13 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:3 Practices

JESUS: *"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart."*

Matthew 5:27-28

God wants new hearts in his new people

"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders..."

Matthew 15:19

14 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:3

***"...there must not be even a hint of
...greed"***

Who comes first?

Not against work

Not against wealth

Not against excellence or its reward

Whose is it anyway?

15 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:4 Practices

Nor should there be

obscenity

foolish talk

or coarse joking,

which are out of place

But rather thanksgiving.

16 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:4 Practices

We have new hearts in Christ...

so we should have new patterns of speech as well.

"But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man."

Matthew 5:18

17 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:4 Practices

Godly talk vs. "foolish talk"

- Is it loving?* (5:1)
- Does it invite immorality or impurity?* (5:3)
- Does it reveal a new heart of thanksgiving?* (5:4)
- Is it edifying for you or your audience?* (4:29)

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building up others according to their needs..." (Eph. 4:29)

18 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:5 Text

For of this you can be sure:

*No immoral,
impure
or greedy person—
such a man is an idolater—
has any inheritance
in the kingdom of Christ
and of God.*

19 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:5 Principles

IDOLATRY:

- *Sexual immorality as idolatry*
- *Greed as idolatry*
- *Any ultimate goal besides God is an idol*
- *You become like what you value*

"Their idols are silver and gold, the work of man's hands... Those who make them will become like them, everyone who trusts in them."

Psalm 115:4-8

20 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:5 Principles

Judgment

- Impurity and greed are sins that God judges*
- God's Kingdom is for holy people*
- But there is still forgiveness and salvation for those who repent: There is none holy w/o Christ*
- Salvation vs. Sanctification*
- True vs. False Christians: Are you showing fruit?*

21 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:6-7 Text

*Let no one deceive you
with empty words,
for
because of such things
God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.
Therefore,
Do not be partakers with them.*

22 Walk in Love: Ephesians 5:6-7 Practices

- "Let no one deceive you"*
 - *Lust as deception*
 - *Greed as deception*
 - *We are prone to deception—Beware!*
- "Do not be partakers with them"*
 - *Put off old self, put on the new self*
 - *"bad company corrupts good morals"*
 - *"you reap what you sow"*

23 Walk in the Light: Ephesians 5:8-10 Text

For you were once in darkness,

But now

You are light in the Lord.

Live as children of light

(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness

righteousness

and truth)

And

Find out what pleases the Lord.

24 Walk in Light: Ephesians 5:8 Principles

"You are light in the Lord. Live as children of light."

- *Living in light means showing fruit*
- *"all righteousness, goodness and truth."*
- *Obedience: "find out what pleases the Lord"*

25 Walk in Light: Ephesians 5:11-14 Text

Have nothing to do

with fruitless deeds of darkness,

But rather

Expose them.

For it is shameful even to mention

what the disobedient do in secret.

But

everything exposed to the light becomes visible,

for

it is light that makes everything visible.

26 Walk in Light: Ephesians 5:11-14 Text (Con't)

This is why it is said:

"Wake up, O sleeper,

rise from the dead,

and

Christ will shine on you."

27 Walk in Light: Ephesians 5:11-14 Practices

- "Have nothing to do with deeds of darkness"*
- "Expose [deeds of darkness]/shameful to mention"*
 - *Teach truth and confront sin*
 - *But avoid salacious gossip*
- Why? "It is light that makes everything visible"*
 - *Actions speak louder than words*
 - *Look first to live as light; your message will be seen*
- Conclusion: "Wake up! Live as New Men" (5:14)*

28 Ephesians 5:1-14

Discussion Questions:

- 1) *How does the example of Jesus' love relate to the command to avoid sexual immorality?*
- 2) *Are "bad words" always wrong? How can you tell godly talk from "foolish talk" or "coarse jesting"?*
- 3) *Identify a few practical examples of what it means to "walk in the light." How can you tell "deeds of light" from "deeds of darkness"?*

EPHESIANS 5: 1-14
Worksheet

1. Be imitators of God,
therefore,
as dearly loved children
2. and
live a life of love,
just as Christ loved us
and gave himself up for us
as a fragrant offering
and sacrifice to God.
3. But
among you
there must not be even a hint
of sexual immorality,
or of any kind of impurity,
or of greed
because
these are improper for God's holy people.
4. Nor
should there be obscenity,
foolish talk
or coarse joking,
which are out of place,
but rather
thanksgiving.
5. For of this you can be sure:
No immoral,
impure
or greedy person –
such a man is an idolater –
has any inheritance
in the kingdom of Christ
and of God.

6. Let no one deceive you
with empty words,
for
because of such things
God's wrath comes on those
who are disobedient.
7. Therefore,
do not be partners with them.
8. For
you were once darkness,
but now
you are light in the Lord.
Live as children of light
9. (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness,
righteousness
and truth)
10. and
find out what pleases the Lord.
11. Have nothing to do
with the fruitless deeds of darkness,
but rather
expose them.
12. For
it is shameful even to mention
what the disobedient do in secret.
13. But
everything exposed to the light becomes visible,
14. for
it is light that makes everything visible.

This is why it is said:

“Wake up, O sleeper,
rise from the dead,
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