

# Family Worship Guide

Sunday, July 31, 2016

## **Ephesians 5:1-21**

### **“Being Imitators of God in Christ”**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; <sup>2</sup> and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. <sup>3</sup> But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; <sup>4</sup> and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. <sup>5</sup> For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partakers with them; <sup>8</sup> for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the Light *consists* in all goodness and righteousness and truth), <sup>10</sup> trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; <sup>12</sup> for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. <sup>13</sup> But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. <sup>14</sup> For this reason it says, “Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you.” <sup>15</sup> Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of your time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; <sup>21</sup> and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

## **QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION**

### **Getting Started**

- Have you ever had your mouth washed out with soap? What were your parent’s rules about language?

### **Going Deeper**

- What three standards does Paul set for Christian living in verses 1, 2, & 8? What should characterize the lives of those living “as children of light” (v. 8)?
- From verses 18-21, what qualities should be exhibited in the spirit-filled life? If you were to make one phrase or verse from this passage your slogan for the coming week, what would it be?

### **Bringing it Home**

- As you look back over your life since becoming a Christian, what positive changes have you seen in your motives and desires?
- As you compare the life you lived before Christ to the life you live in Christ today, where have you seen the greatest change? In your language? Your desires? Your values? The way you treat others?<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Questions taken from *Serendipity Bible for Groups*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998), 1628-1629.