

# Ephesians Week #9 – Living in the LIGHT

Ephesians 4:25-5:21 (The New Man Walking in the Light – Audio by David Guzik @ Enduringword.com)

## Ephesians 5:1-14

**Vs. 1-2: Imitate God-** what does imitate mean? How on earth can we, in our sinful nature do this? **In EVERYTHING I DO!** Wow, It surely won't happen if I am walking in the flesh and flat out practicing sin in my life!

We are to be His dear children; that means He knows us, like a parent knows their children. They ARE NOT PERFECT and as a loving parent, they will have to make allowances for their mess ups EVERYDAY-Grace and Forgiveness.

So, Jesus does the same for us, as we are His children if we are born again, live a life filled with love. Where does that infilling come from?

Jesus, God, Holy Spirit (The Trinity) and the Word tell us. Much prayer applied to this and lots of test and opportunities to try and WALK this out daily.

He offered Himself for all our sins, past, present, and future. That pretty much covers us for all our sins, so we do not have to walk with our heads down or listen to the condemning accusations and lies of satan. Jesus radiates, gives off a "Godly aroma"- we can smell just like Him when we are willing to submit to and walk in the fruit of His Holy Spirit. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness and Self-Control.

**Vs 3-4:** Sexual immorality- we all know what all that entails, and as a Christ Follower we should be using Christs power to conquer any dealings with such sins. Impure thoughts can come when we least expect them and wonder why and where they came from! (Just look at what is pushed in front of our eyes daily). We just do not share this stuff with everyone; (well, some do so on FB, which is another avenue we need to limit our time and replies to)

Impurity is real in our thought lives (not always evident on the outside). Our thought lives can be curbed and controlled by guarding our hearts; “Take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ Jesus”. Be watchful of what we watch, listen to, and who we hang out with. Sin is no respecter of persons; we all have to fight the good fight of faith daily!

Greed: where your treasure is your heart will be also. This is a sister to other problems like, covetousness, envy and even jealousy. Each of us can deal with our own hearts about these sins. Some people have more problems with them than others, and God bless those that have the “gift of generosity” and do not relate to anyone having a problem with these sins.

Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes. They have no place in a Christians life. Again, we must be willing and strong enough in Jesus to stand alone and firm in our convictions with these things, of which some can be strongholds in peoples lives. When we are around people that talk like this, it can be very awkward to be quiet and not smile at things that are NOT funny and may even be downright filthy!

The world thinks this kind of talk is the NORM. Norm for who? Not us! We are not closet Christians. We must ask God for the Spirit of Self-Control to say NO!-don't agree and join in, and if possible, even walk away. Peer pressure and wanting to be accepted can really make it difficult to stand against theses sins.

*Stay in the Word, pray and ask God to convict us as sin shows up in our lives daily; this is what gives us victory over Satan. **Guess what? You will be hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit all day long; this will happen if you are serious about wanting Him to convict you when you sin! OUCH! It happens in our thought life all day long.***

**Think about what you're thinking about!**

## Vs.5-6

No immoral-impure-greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. Does this mean if I have a problem or had a problem with any of these sins, I will not go to heaven? NO! I believe Paul is talking to a lost person, one that PRACTICES these things with no remorse, consideration, or guilt; it's a normal lifestyle for them.

We sin, we confess, we repent, we turn away from the sin and turn to God. We mess up, we fess up. As we said in our previous verses, greed covers a lot of sin ground. One mentioned here is idolatry-thinking more of things and people than God. Who and what is first and most important in your lives? Think about it. What and who takes up most of your time and money?

When a person is lost, they think nothing of the sinful actions these scriptures are talking about. But if we are saved and we "lie" to ourselves or try to "justify" our sins or talk our way into believing these things aren't so bad.... Sin has a price to pay and so does disobedience.

Remember, Satan comes to steal, kill and destroy, he appears as an angel of light, he is the father of lies and he roars as a lion-he and his angels are busy about his business of death and destruction and sorrow all day long!

But God and His Holy Spirit TRUMP Satan and his angels! The veil was removed from our eyes and heart at the time of our salvation. We know right from wrong; we can make the right choices.

The closer we are to God the easier it will be to make the right choices. Be thankful-always.

### Vs. 7-9

“Don’t participate in these things” speaking of the sins we covered in previous verses. When we were “Lost” we were guilty of walking in sin and doing whatever we wanted and not thinking anything of it. When we got saved, we were given a new heart and desires.

We should walk in the **light** and not in the old ways, darkness. Jesus is the **light**, Jesus lives in us, we have the **light** in us and He should be **shining** through us. The closer we are to Jesus the more our **light** will shine and the less we will fulfill sinful desires

Our desires are new, and **we want to serve Jesus** and strive to live a sinless life. **Not because we must or need to work our way to Jesus**, but because we are so thankful for what Jesus did for us, we have a heart to serve and do what is right. “Determine what pleases the Lord”. You find the answer to what pleases God by your fellowship with Jesus – we do this through prayer, study and constant learning and seeking to grow closer and closer to Jesus.

### Vs.11-14

Again, do not practice sin – taking part in worthless deeds of evil that we have been discussing, instead– expose them. What does it mean “**Expose them**”?

**Expose**=uncover, reveal, display, exhibit, show, blow the whistle on.

We need to speak and stand against sins that are acceptable to the world and or worldly Christians, we are to be the “**light**” in the darkness – Gods word is repetitious on this matter; be a beacon, a **light** house, an example, a true Christ Follower-which means we don’t “Practice sinning” and we will **always strive** to walk according to what the Word and the Holy Spirit tells us.

The bible talks about it being “shameful to even speak of what the ungodly do”. We do not need to dwell on, talk about or gossip about what sinners do. Just talking about it, somehow seems to stir up something within us, that can create thoughts that are not beneficial to us or the hearers we are talking to.

Do not go there, guard your eyes, ears, and heart at all costs! Evil has a price to pay; you reap what you sow, sin does not go without punishment or consequences. There is a scripture that says: “Be sure, your sins will find you out”, and there is nothing we do that is hidden from God.

“Awake O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will give you **light**”. I think we can look at this verse two ways: 1) If speaking to a lost person, they need to get saved from death and destruction without Christ 2) He (Jesus) will come inside anyone that asks Him and then they will be able to walk in His **light**; He is **the Light** and the **Light** lives inside us when we accept Him as our personal Savior. AND the second way of looking at this verse: 1) A Christ Follower who has become dull and insensitive to the voice of God and no longer walks in His **light**; he is not dead to sin, he is walking in his sinful flesh and becomes dead spiritually. 2) He needs to repent and get right with God and allow the Holy Spirit to renew his heart, soul and mind and let the **Light** of Jesus once again shine through him.