



REVEALED

The Mystery of Christ in Ephesians

Ephesians 5:5-21

August 9th, 2015

MOTIVATED TO LIVE GOOD, RIGHT, & TRUE (FOUR INCENTIVES FOR LIVING OUT WHO YOU REALLY ARE)

1. Because We Are Sin-Abstainers

⁵ For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷ Therefore do not become partners with them... – Ephesians 5:5-7 (ESV)

2. Because We Are Light-Bearers

⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” – Ephesians 5:8-14 (ESV)

THE POWER OF CHRIST’S LIGHT

- IT RIPENS WHAT IS BEST INSIDE OUR HEARTS
- IT EXPOSES WHAT IS HIDDEN IN THE DARKNESS
- IT TRANSFORMS WHAT IT SHINES UPON

3. Because We Are Wisdom-Walkers

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. – Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV)

TWO MARKS OF WISDOM

- SEIZING EACH OPPORTUNITY
- DISCERNING GOD'S PURPOSE

4. Because We Are Spirit-Containers

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. – Ephesians 5:18-21 (ESV)

FOUR BENEFITS OF THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

- DEEPER COMMUNITY
- RICHER WORSHIP
- FULLER GRATITUDE
- SWEETER GENTLENESS

I Will Live The Mystery by...

- Memorizing [Ephesians 5:18](#)
- Embracing who I really am in Christ.
- Seeking to live in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
- Awakening to a new life in Christ.

WALK THE TALK A Growth Group Guide

1. What was the greatest incentive you ever received at your job or your place of ministry? Describe how it ramped up your commitment.
2. Even though it is a “negative” incentive for us, what positive things come out of knowing that we will have to face God on judgment day? How can we face him with confidence?
3. When you think about being a light for others, how does that keep you on your toes at the office? In the home? At school? In the neighborhood? What aspect of the power of Christ’s Light really got your attention? Explain.
4. Why is living carelessly living foolishly? How does embracing a more focused understanding of the will of God help you live a better life?
5. How do you see the importance of being Spirit-filled? Would you say you have invited that fullness to fill you to overflowing yet? In what ways can you tell you are enjoying such fullness in your life right now?
6. What do you think you specifically need to do this week to start “living the mystery of Christ” out?