

Jason Huffman

Ephesians 5:8-16

Title: Walk in the Light

7/6/24

Group Leader Guide

Sermon Recap

In the sermon "Walk in the Light," believers are called to be lights in the world, reflecting Christ's light and avoiding darkness. Emphasizing the need for belief, obedience, and fruitfulness, Pastor Jason warns against returning to darkness and encourages walking circumspectly with wisdom. By staying connected to Christ, avoiding darkness, and shining their light, believers can live out their identity in Christ and glorify God in the world.

Discussion Questions

What does it mean to walk in the light as a believer in Jesus?

- Pastor Jason explained that walking in the light involves believing in and following Jesus. It sounds simple, but it is not easy.
- How can you personally apply these ideas to your life and live as a child of the light?

How can we prevent ourselves from slipping back into darkness?

- Pastor Jason discussed several challenges that may tempt us to go back to darkness.
- What practical steps can you take to keep your light from dimming?

Why is it important to avoid fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness?

- The message emphasized that avoiding fellowship with darkness is a crucial aspect of walking in the light, which includes confessing and exposing darkness in our lives to the light and truth of God's word.
- What kinds unfruitful works have you seen in your own life? What are the results of these things?

According to Ephesians 5:8, how does our identity change when we come to know Christ?

- Pastor Jason referred to Ephesians 5:8 and explained that before accepting Christ, we were dead without His light in us, but when we open our hearts to Him, we become children of light.
- How does understanding your new identity as a child of light impact your choices and behavior to be a light?

How can our light shine before others and bring glory to God?

- Pastor Jason quoted Matthew [5:14-16](#), reminding us that we are the light of the world and are called to let our light shine before others through good works.

- What specific actions or attitudes can you demonstrate in your daily life to let your light shine and point others to Christ?

Prayer

- Ask God to help us walk in the light and turn away from darkness.
 - Pray for strength to develop and maintain good spiritual habits.
 - Seek guidance on how to be fruitful and reflect Christ's light to others.
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Big Idea: Be a light so people see Christ our Light.

8 For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

Not that we were IN darkness, we *were* darkness.

We were dead without the light of the life of Christ in us.

John 12:46 Jesus said, "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in Me should remain in darkness.

1. Believe in Jesus.

Jesus said, John 8:12, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

2. Follow Jesus.

Believing is the first step, obedience is the next.

If Paul is saying to walk as children of light...

...They are probably not walking like that...

...or they are tempted to walk once again in darkness.

Why would you be tempted to or go back to darkness?

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

- Maybe we slip into old habits or want our compromises hidden.
- Maybe we get tired of resisting sin.
- Maybe we get distracted or discouraged or deceived.
- Maybe we believe Satan's lies that we don't belong.
- Or maybe we just drift slowly into the shadows for any number of reasons from grief to complacency.

3. Don't get dimmer.

Paul says, "Don't go back! That is not you anymore!"
Don't go back to living like you were lost.

Jeremiah 8

5 Why has this people slidden back, Jerusalem, in a perpetual backsliding? They hold fast to deceit, They refuse to return. 6 I listened and heard, *But* they do not speak aright. No man repented of his wickedness, Saying, 'What have I done?' Everyone turned to his own course, As the horse rushes into the battle.

9 (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

4. Be fruitful.

Goodness or virtue, moral strength.

Righteousness: things are done well and right.

Truth. Honesty, trustworthiness, genuineness.

11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*. **12** For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

You can plant a hundred seeds and water like crazy...
...but if you don't pull the weeds or keep animals out...
...you will have no fruit in the harvest.

Spiritually...

If you don't turn from darkness...
...your fruit will be limited to nonexistent.

5. Bring darkness to light.

Don't fellowship w/darkness or those who work darkness.

13 But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. **14** Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

6. Wake up and shine.

Matthew 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. **16** Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, **16** redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

7. Walk in wisdom.

Fools don't care where they are going.
Fools don't understand the value of time.

**Walk circumspectly...watch where you step.
And use the time you have for things that really matter.**