

Ephesians 5:1-20 – 25 September 2022

“Mimic Jesus”

Introduction

*Ephesians Outlined

*Chap 1-3 – **The Position of the Christian**

*Chap 4-6 – **The Practice of the Christian**

*Christ Jesus has invited us into a new life & identity

*Chap 4 began speaking of our practice as Christians as that of having *vibrant unity* within the Church

*Chap 5 now focuses us on the very Role-Model for our Christian life

Read Chap 5:1

1. Follower isn't just someone who watches
2. To be follower is to be a mimic (see & repeat)
3. How can you mimic if you're not seeing God regularly in His Word and thru the Church?
4. Young children have a natural hero-syndrome
 - a. Be like little children in faith & love

***Here's 4 ways we are to be mimicking Jesus**

#1 – Mimic Christ’s Love: Be givers, not takers (Vs 2-5)

Read Vs 2

1. Mimic Christ’s sacrificial agape love
2. Sweet-smelling savour how?
 - a. Myrrh was offering of sacrifice (manger)
 - b. The giving, crushing or burning of self in service to others, the smell is released

Read Vs 3-5

1. Are we loving (vs 2) others by what we’re doing (vs 3) and what we’re saying (vs 4)
2. If this act or speech was completely public, would it be seen as loving to all parties?
3. A habit of such things shows a heart not set on mimicking Jesus Christ

#2 – Mimic Christ’s Liberty: Walk with new desires (Vs 6-12)

Read Vs 6-7

1. Don’t be convinced by unbelievers that these lusts are ok
 - a. Read John 17:15 – Jesus prayed for us
 - b. Lusts are what sent Christ to a brutal death
2. Those not forgiven of God’s wrath poured on Jesus at the cross will have to yet taste of it

Read Vs 8-10

1. We haven’t just grown from how we were born
 - a. We’ve passed from dark/death to light/life
2. Producing fruit of the Spirit in life can only be found when you’re following good, righteous & true things
 - a. Read Gal 5:22-23

Read Vs 11-12

1. What are the unfruitful works of darkness?

- a. Works of the flesh from (Read) Gal 5:19:21
2. Don't share body or mind with these lifestyles
 - a. Vs 12 is what no foolish talking/jesting is from vs 4
3. Reprove these works is to uncover or expose them

#3 – Mimic Christ's Light: Illuminate our town (Vs 13-17)

Read Vs 13-14

1. Christ Jesus is the Light that reprovess
 - a. Read John 8:12 – Following His light illuminates the way
 - b. Read John 3:19 – Men are condemned b/c they want to stay in the dark
2. Jesus made us into lights shining His life
 - a. Read Mat 5:14-16 – The light of Christ in our life should make a difference where we go

Read Vs 15

1. Circumspectly = fully well, accurately
2. We're in the world but not of it, so live thoughtfully regarding how we can engage this world by our godly living

Read Vs 16

1. A typical day is set to evil & we restrain that evil by contributing godliness into it
2. Read Col 4:5-6 – Even our speech should contribute godliness

Read Vs 17

1. Don't live our days unintentionally, but purposefully
2. Look to introduce the love and grace of Jesus Christ into the room

#4 – Mimic Christ’s Life: Be filled w/ the Holy Spirit (Vs 18-20)

Read Vs 18

1. Don’t be overcome w/ alcohol which is the condition of riotousness
 - a. Read Prov 20:1
 - b. Read Prov 23:29-33
2. Can only be controlled by ONE thing; choose

Read Vs 19-20

1. Spirit-filled life is marked by worship & gratitude
2. Variety of musical pieces here suggests that we be creative in our express without becoming stale
3. Notice that the most important place for us to be worshipping God is in our heart
 - a. W/o it, the lips don’t matter
4. As David played his hymns of praise, demons fled from Saul. As Paul & Silas worshipped God, their chains began to fall.
5. Jesus sang in Mark 14:26 after communion

6. Vs 20: Gratitude is a heart condition, a lifestyle
 - a. Look all around
 - i. Look *down* & be grateful that you're saved from the fires of hell
 - ii. Look *left & right* & be grateful for gift of the Holy Spirit
 - iii. Look *up* & be grateful for our hope of living with Jesus forever

Conclusion

So following Jesus, is very very different that following someone on Instagram or Tik Tok

Following Jesus is to mimic His very nature that He role-modeled for us on earth

1. **Mimic His Love**

- a. Sacrificially give to bring others to Christ
- b. Guard the way we act, but also our talk

2. **Mimic His Liberty**

- a. We have a heavenly nature living in freedom – stay there

3. **Mimic His Light**

- a. Bring a difference into the room with you

4. **Mimic His Life**

- a. The Holy Spirit gives us power & victory
- b. Remind yourself moment by moment of the goodness of God

Read John 12:26 – **Serving** leads to **mimicking** which leads to **closeness** which leads to **honor** from God