



Ephesians

Series: Ephesians: Taking Ground

Text: Ephesians 5:1-20 **Title:** "Living in the Light"

Date: July 17, 2022 **Speaker:** Jordan Hansen

What is the book of Ephesians all about? 1-3: We must understand what God has done for us... 4-5: ...before we can understand what we can do for God!

Week 1:	Poem of praise about the Trinity at work in salvation.	Ephesians 1:1-14
Week 2:	Paul's Prayer of enlightenment	Ephesians 1:15-23
Week 3:	Salvation: Saved from SIN!	Ephesians 2:1-10
Week 4:	Jew & Gentile: ONE FAMILY	Ephesians 2:11-22
Week 5:	Paul's Calling & His Prayer of empowerment	Ephesians 3:1-21
Week 6:	A Worthy Life Together	Ephesians 4:1-6
Week 7:	A Healthy Church	Ephesians 4:7-16
Week 8:	Changed Lives	Ephesians 4:17-32
Week 9:	Living in the Light	Ephesians 5:1-20

Light is an important element of life. Plants, animals, and humans all depend on light for survival. More specifically, it provides the ability to see where we are going and guides us on our path. Spiritually, no greater metaphor could be applied to the Christian church and to followers of Jesus. We have the unique calling of serving our community by reflecting the light of Christ. But, when we live in darkness...we provide no light.

I can think of no other edifice constructed by man as altruistic as a lighthouse. They were built only to serve. - George Bernard Shaw

How can we provide light to our community?→Eph. 5:1-20

5.1-20

1 Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, (forgiveness)
because you are his dear children.

2 Live a life filled with love,
following the example of Christ.
He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

3 Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you.
Such sins have no place among God's people.

4 Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes—these are not for you.
Instead, let there be thankfulness to God.

5 You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God.
For a greedy person is an idolater,
worshiping the things of this world.

6 Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins,
for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him.

7 Don't participate in the things these people do.

8 For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord.

So live as people of light!

9 For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.

10 Carefully determine what pleases the Lord.

11 Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them.

12 It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret.

13 But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them,

14 for the light makes everything visible. This is why it is said,

"Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

15 So be careful how you live.

Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise.

16 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.

17 Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life.

Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,

19 singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves,

and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

20 And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1: We are God's sons and daughters.→Why do we imitate God? Why do we forgive?→This is our IDENTITY.

- My identity is NOT in my: sexuality, money, status, or popularity.→I am God's son.→I am God's daughter.

→Transition: Point. If my identity is not in my relationship w/God...i will struggle with darkness.

2-20: Death lurks in the darkness, but light leads to LIFE.

- Darkness is a metaphor for sin...and sin destroys.→Romans 6:23→What turns off the lights?

- 3: Sexual immorality, impurity, & greed (idolater who worship the things of the world).→Porn Study

- 4: Obscene stories, foolish talk, coarse jokes

- 11: worthless deeds of evil // 15: Foolish living, drunkenness,

- = 5: People who make these sins their identity will not inherit the Kingdom of God. // 6: anger of God

- "When you wake up in the morning look at the mirror in the bathroom by the toilet. Pretty sure Judah has been smearing his poop on the mirror."→idolatry→ignorance→God knows what is BEST for us.→CS Lew is Quote

- Light exposes how far off the path we've gotten.→What turns on the lights?→Only Jesus can turn the lights on!

- 1. ASK: 14: He died so we could RISE & SHINE!→**When we give God our life, He gives us His Son.**

- 2. ASK: 9: the light within us produces what is **good & right & true.**→**Our light is His life.**

→Transition: Point. But...im a son or daughter of God and i still struggle with darkness. What now?

Living in the light requires daily decisions.→2:Live/walk in love→Follow sacrificial example of J!→Jn 8:12→Communion

1. 4, 20:Be thankful.→Gratitude impacts attitude.

2. 10, 15, 17:Be careful.→Bible, boundaries, & Godly brothers / sisters.

3. 18:Be filled with the Holy Spirit.→Daily time with God.→Weekly WORSHIP!→We need God's help.

→Transition: Point. Lord, we join in now across the generations with communities of followers of Jesus who have built their lives on the God who desires to shine LIGHT even into the darkest of hearts. Pour out your grace as we remember the body and the blood of Jesus who IS OUR EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW!!

→**Live in the light!**→PRAYER: Father, help us to live in the light!

TALK ABOUT IT - Questions to GROW through with family, friends, & myself.

1. Have I ever had to find my way without street or head lights? Describe the experience.

2. How does this passage connect my identity of being a child of God to the light? How is Jesus involved?

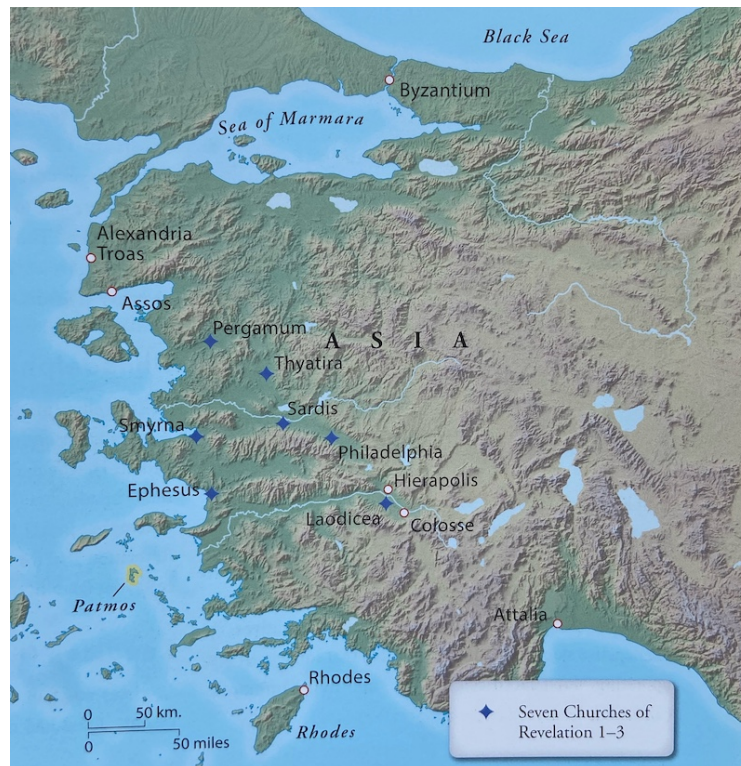
3. Why does it matter how a follower of Jesus lives their life? How does this impact peoples' lives?

4. Do my daily decisions reflect my desire to live in the light? What needs to change?

5. **PRAYER:** "Father, help us to live in the light!"

LINKS / RESOURCES:

- Bible Project Ephesians Video: <https://youtu.be/Y71r-T98E2Q>
- Historical/Cultural Background to the Book of Ephesians: <https://youtu.be/6FflE2jS7-k>
- “Roman Emperors and Their Sex Lives (7 Stories)”’: <https://www.thecollector.com/sex-lives-roman-emperor/>
- The 7 “I AM” statement of the Gospel of John: <https://www.gotquestions.org/seven-I-AM-statements.html>
- Map of Asia Minor (Modern Day Turkey) where this letter would have been circulated:



QUOTES / SONGS:

I can think of no other edifice constructed by man as altruistic as a lighthouse. They were built only to serve. - **George Bernard Shaw**

“It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.” - **C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory, and Other Addresses**

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“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it but because by it, I see everything else.” - **CS Lewis, “Is Theology Poetry?” found in The Weight of Glory.**

The 7 “I Am” Statement of John: <https://www.gotquestions.org/seven-I-AM-statements.html>

1. *“I am the bread of life” (John 6:35, 41, 48, 51). In this chapter, Jesus establishes a pattern that continues through John’s gospel—Jesus makes a statement about who He is, and He backs it up with something He does. In this case, Jesus states that He is the bread of life just after He had fed the 5,000 in the wilderness. At the same time, He contrasts what He can do with what Moses had done for their ancestors: “Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die” (verses 49–50).”*

2. "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12; 9:5). This second of Jesus' "I am" statements in John's gospel comes right before He heals a man born blind. Jesus not only says He is the light; He proves it. Jesus' words and actions echo Genesis 1:3, "And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light."
3. "I am the door" (John 10:7 and 9, ESV). This "I am" statement stresses that no one can enter the kingdom of heaven by any other means than Christ Himself. Jesus' words in this passage are couched in the imagery of a sheepfold. He is the one and only way to enter the fold. "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber" (verse 1, ESV)."
4. "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11, 14). With this "I am" statement, Jesus portrays His great love and care. He is the One who willingly protects His flock even to the point of death (verses 11 and 15). When Jesus called Himself the good shepherd, He unmistakably took for Himself one of God's titles in the Old Testament: "The Lord is my shepherd" (Psalm 23:1)."
5. "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). Jesus made this "I am" statement immediately before raising Lazarus from the dead. Again, we see that Jesus' teaching was not just empty talk; when He made a claim, He substantiated it with action. He holds "the keys of death and the grave" (Revelation 1:18, NLT). In raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus showed how He can fulfill Yahweh's promise to ancient Israel: "[God's] dead shall live; their bodies shall rise" (Isaiah 26:19, ESV). Apart from Jesus, there is neither resurrection nor eternal life."
6. "I am the way and the truth and the life" (John 14:6). This powerful "I am" statement of Christ's is packed with meaning. Jesus is not merely one way among many ways to God; He is the only way. Scripture said that "The very essence of [God's] words is truth" (Psalm 119:160, NLT), and here is Jesus proclaiming that He is the truth—confirming His identity as the Word of God (see John 1:1, 14). And Jesus alone is the source of life; He is the Creator and Sustainer of all life and the Giver of eternal life."
7. "I am the true vine" (John 15:1, 5). The final metaphorical "I am" statement in the Gospel of John emphasizes the sustaining power of Christ. We are the branches, and He is the vine. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit unless it is joined in vital union with the vine, only those who are joined to Christ and receive their power from Him produce fruit in the Christian life."

This I Believe - The Creed

Our Father everlasting
 The all-creating One
 God Almighty
 Through your Holy Spirit
 Conceiving Christ the Son
 Jesus our Saviour

I believe in God our Father
 I believe in Christ the Son
 I believe in the Holy Spirit
 Our God is three in One
 I believe in the resurrection
 That we will rise again
 For I believe in the Name of Jesus
 (In the name o' Lord)

Our Judge and our Defender
 Suffered and crucified
 Forgiveness is in You

Descended into darkness
 You rose in glorious light
 Forever seated high

I believe in God our Father
 I believe in Christ the Son
 I believe in the Holy Spirit
 Our God is three in One
 I believe in the resurrection
 That we will rise again
 For I believe in the Name of Jesus

*I believe in You
I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord
(I believe)
And I believe in You
I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord*

*I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus*

*I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus
For I believe in the Name of Jesus
For I believe in the Name of Jesus
(We believe in Lord Jesus)
I believe in life eternal
I believe in the virgin birth
I believe in the saints' communion
And in Your Holy Church
I believe in the resurrection
When Jesus comes again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus
(Come on)*

*I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus*

*I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus
For I believe in the Name of Jesus*

*Praise you, Lord
Worship you, Jesus.*

SCRIPTURES: New Living Translation unless otherwise noted.

Romans 6:23

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 8:12

12 Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."

John 11:25

25 Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.

John 14:6

6 Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

MESA VISION LINKS:

- What is the Mesa Launch Team & how can I sign up? <https://mesa.church/launch>
- Who is Mesa? Click: [ID.Mission.Vision.Leadership Values](#)
- Where are we at with the building? Click: [NOW Initiative & Building Renovation](#)
- What is the vision of Mesa Church? Click: [Vision Sermons / Messages](#)
- Is there anything I can watch to be inspired? Click: [Grow Conference Main Sessions](#)

MESA GROWTH LINKS:

- How can I grow spiritually? Coming soon.
- How can I grow as a leader? Coming soon.
- What books would you recommend? Click: [Book Recommendations](#)
- Where are Jordan's Interviews? Click: [Talks with Jordan](#)

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