

Ephesians 5

Our new life in Christ

Last week

our new life brings us

the ability to live a
whole new way

We need to choose to
live differently

our focus today

Living out our faith

explain

Read vs. 1-2

Be imitators of God

then he spells out how

We live out our faith

When we walk in love

Give Jesus as an example

John 15:13 (NLT) There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

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Read 1 Cor. 13:1-7

Walking in love

is what we are called to do

but can be very challenging at times

Though challenging

more than possible

because His love had been
poured out in our hearts

I don't manufacture love

I express his love

When I express

His love to those around me

I am imitating Jesus

and showing an aspect
of His character

1 John 4:7–12 (NLT) Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. **8** But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9** God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. **10** This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. **11** Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. **12** No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.

Remember Jesus' words

by this they will know you are
my disciples

“by your love for one another”

Read verses 3

We live out our faith

When we walk in purity

Sexual immorality

any kind of sexual impurity
outside of what God has ordained

Greek word porneia

all impurity

lifestyle bent of fulfilling every
indulgence

Greed

inordinate desire for anything

both impurity and greed

are likely conveyed

in the context of
sexual immorality

walking in purity

is even more challenging today

because of the culture we live in

Read verses 4

We live out our faith

When we watch our words

Last week

Speak truth rather than lying

foul or abusive language (nlt)

We are to use our words
to build up, not tear down

Ever watch a movie

where foul language is
used constantly

think about why that is

Proverbs 21:23 (NLT) Watch your tongue and keep your mouth shut, and you will stay out of trouble.

Proverbs 17:28 (NLT) Even fools are thought wise when they keep silent; with their mouths shut, they seem intelligent.

Psalms 19:14 (NLT) May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

James 3:8–10 (NLT) but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. **9** Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. **10** And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!

If we want to

use our mouths for something

Let it be to give thanks
and praise to God

Ephesians 5:5–9 (NIV) For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. **7** Therefore do not be partners with them.

8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light **9** (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)

We live out our faith

**When we let the light
of Jesus shine**

8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light **9** (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)

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in the gospel of John

Jesus is described as the
light that came into the world

When you are born-again

the light of the world is in you

So now you are light

darkness is the absence of light

Our Job

is not to get people to
accept the truth

it is to show them the truth

John 3:19 (ESV) —And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.

Read vs. 11-14

When we shine His light

we shine the truth

Friday's devotion

When people outside the faith look at your life, what do they see? Does your life present an accurate reflection of the one true God?

Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Philippians 2:14–16 (NIV) Do everything without grumbling or arguing, **15** so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky **16** as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.

Read vs. 15-16

expound

Read vs. 17-19

We live out our faith

**When we make the
most of our time**

understand God's will

God's ultimate will is
our sanctification

“that we would continually
become more like Jesus”

**living our lives
according to the will of God**

is the best use of our time

Read vs. 20-21

We are living out our faith

**When we put others before
ourselves**

Philippians 2:3–4 (NIV) Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, **4** not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

**This runs contrary to
the old nature**

Paul goes on in Phil 2

to show Jesus as our example

Philippians 2:5–8 (NLT) You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. **6** Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. **7** Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, **8** he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

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