



ONE: A Study of Ephesians
Walk as Wise, Not Unwise
Ephesians 5:15-20

Big Idea: Walk as Wise Not Unwise

Introduction: There are wise people and there are foolish people. Proverbs address the contrast between wise and foolish throughout the book pointing all God's children to choose wisdom. Paul addresses the believers in Ephesus and calls them to walk in the world as wise and not unwise. He gives the not so subtle directive to walk carefully making sure that wisdom is the guide and instructor not foolishness. The Holy Spirit has been given to believers to guide them with wisdom.

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.

Ephesians 5:15-16

I. Walk as Wise, Not Unwise

17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 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,

Ephesians 5:17-20

The unwise are foolish and the unwise get drunk.
The wise understand and do the Lord's will
The wise are filled with the Spirit.

The wise address one another worshipfully
The wise always give thanks to God for everything

- A. Do Not Be Foolish
- B. Understand and Do the Lord's Will (2 Samuel 2:1)
- C. Do Not Get Drunk (drunk individuals are filled with self)
- D. Be Filled with the Spirit
- E. Address One Another Worshipfully
- F. Give Thanks to God for Everything

Conclusion: Is there an area of your life where you are living foolishly? Is there an area of sin that has you tripped up? Is there a relationship that you know is not right to be in, but you are hanging on hoping something will improve? Wisdom means that the right way is the way we chose to obey and follow the Lord. Wise means that we know what to do and we do it. Wisdom is not just knowledge, it is action. You can be wise in knowledge but foolish in actions. Why not use the knowledge you have and act wisely? What wise understanding do you need to turn into wise action today?

Blessing: May the Lord bless you with the assurance of salvation and the indwelling of his Holy Spirit. May the Lord guide you to right thinking and right acting and right speaking this week and everything week. May he bless your life as you seek His wisdom and the strength to obey His will!

Life Application Questions:

1. What does it mean to walk carefully as wise and not unwise?
2. How are you doing in this area? Are walking wisely? How do you know?
3. What does it mean to walk as unwise?
4. There is a unique contrast given in verse 19 by Paul between getting drunk and being filled with the Spirit. What wise conclusions can you draw from the contrast? What difference can this instruction make in your life? In the life of someone you know who gets drunk?
5. What role does singing (music) have in the life of a believer?
6. What is the importance of giving thanks? How can we give things always? How does this verse connect with walking in wisdom?
7. Pray: Ask the Lord to help you walk in wisdom and to guide your children and friends to do the same!