

WALK AS  
PEOPLE OF LIGHT

*Week 7:*  
*Ephesians 5:1-20*

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Here is the wonderful truth: the life of darkness is in your past, those days are behind you, and although you used to chase after sin in your life... it is now chasing you. But it cannot have you for you are walking forward in the Light of Jesus Christ.

# LOVE IN US

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- We are called to imitate God who is love and follow the example of Christ who embodied love. Our lives are to be filled with love.
  - A. The “Love” we are called to imitate, follow and be filled with is not a feeling. This is a call to action in our lives.
- “As beloved children...Walk in love” 5:2

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**LOVE (AGAPE)** is unconditional, sacrificial love which God is. It is love which is commanded in believers, empowered by His Spirit, activated by personal choice of one's will, and is not based on one's feelings toward the object of one's love and is manifested by specific actions.

The prototype of this quality of supernatural love is the Father's love for sinful men as manifest by the Son's sacrifice on the Cross. That is the love in which we are to be rooted and grounded and in which we are called to walk!

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**WALK (PERIPATEO** from **PERI** = about, around + **PATEO** = walk, tread) literally means to walk about here and there or to tread all around. **PERIPATEO** then came to mean to make one's way, to make progress, to make due use of one's opportunities and finally to live, to regulate one's life, to conduct one's live. Most of the NT uses of peripateo refer to daily conduct.

# LOVE IN US

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We make progress forward in walking in love when we become more and more in the practice of offering ourselves as a sacrifice for others.

# LIGHT IN US

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- “Don’t participate in the things these people do. For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light!”
  - 5 specific sins are mentioned in this passage to be rejected in our lives: 1) sexual sins, 2) impure thoughts, 3) greediness (idolatry), 4) foolish thoughtless actions, and 5) drunkenness.

# LIFE IN US

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- When we are filled with self-sacrificial love, helping each other walk out of our sinful pasts, we will be moving forward into the LIFE God has for us.
  - “This light within you produces only what is good, right and true.” v9
  - “Carefully determine what pleases the Lord.” v10
  - “Make the most of every opportunity” v16
  - “Be filled with the Holy Spirit... give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” v18-20



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If you are walking in sobriety, drunkenness cannot happen. If you are walking in purity, immorality cannot happen. If you are walking in full devotion and worship of God you will not have false idols in your life. So, the lesson for us is this- **TURN ON THE LIGHT IN YOUR LIFE!** Seek sobriety, purity, devotion and thanksgiving. Practice these things in your life and you will send the darkness fleeing!