

Small Group Discipleship Guide

Scripture Reading

Read **Ephesians 5:1-14** aloud:

Setting the Scene

We should remember that the culture Paul was writing about — filled with sexual immorality, impurity, and greed — isn't all that different from the culture we live in today. The temptation to say "it's so much worse now" can distract us from the real issue: every generation has faced the pull to live like the world around us. Paul is calling the Ephesians, and us, to live as Children of Light in a dark world.

Discussion Questions

1. Let no one deceive you. The world will try to convince you that the dark is light and that the light is dark. How have you sensed the darkness of the world around you seeking to deceive you?
 2. How often do you run into sexual immorality, impurity and greed during a normal week?
 3. Are you ever tempted, or drawn into conversations filled with obscenity, foolishness or coarse jokes? How do you respond to those who talk like that around you?
 4. Living as People of Light. How have you seen "goodness," "right relationships," and "truth" in your interactions with people this week?
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Personal Reflection

Read this slowly and sit with it:

"Awake, O sleeper,
rise up from the dead,
and Christ will give you light."— Ephesians 5:14

Ask yourself: - Is there anything to which you've "fallen asleep?" - How is God calling you back to your first Love? - What do you remember about how you felt about life and the world when you were baptized?

This Week: Continue watching for where God is at work in you. The process of renovating your heart is ongoing. Try to notice where and how you sense renovations of your heart happening. Are you resisting that renovation, or welcoming the renovation?