



WELCOME TO THE
table



Ephesians

THE CHURCH IN *CHRIST*



Ephesians 5:1-21

[1] Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. [2] And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

[3] But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. [4] Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. [5] For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. [6] Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.



Ephesians 5:1-21

[7] Therefore do not become partners with them; [8] for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light [9] (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), [10] and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. [11] Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. [12] For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. [13] But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, [14] for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”.



Ephesians 5:1-21

[15] 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.
[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, [21] submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.



Imitate God

We are called to live a life that is consistent in the way of Jesus.

Ephesus was ground zero for finances for all of Asia!

The temple of Artemis was massive, and was the center of economic power, finance and business and cult worship during that time.

It was a very perverse and erotic place, and when the gospel slams into Ephesus for the first time, it spreads very fast and changes the socioeconomic climate so much so that a riot breaks out because new Christians were no longer participating in perverse cultish behavior.

- *Christians were hated.*



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Imitate God

This is how the church plant in Ephesus began.

Paul writes this letter some 12-15 years later.

This should help shape our perspective in his instruction.



I. WALK IN LOVE 5:1-2

[1] Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. [2] And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

- *Like the Father in generosity with sacrificial love*
- *Like the Son in sacrificial love with grateful obedience*
- *Jesus pays the price for us to become sons and daughters of obedience*



2. WALK IN LIGHT 5:3-14

- *Paul says that our lives should be exalting God and not the idols of our day (3-6)*
- *He then points out a few that were prevalent in Ephesus; **Sexual immorality, impurity, greed, & corrupt speech***
- *Then we see a warning in verses 5 and 6, that we should not live like sons and daughters of disobedience, which stands in direct contrast of verse 2. **(We have become sons & daughters of obedience)***



2. *WALK IN LIGHT* 5:3-14

- We are Light and the fruit of light... (7-10)
- Doesn't partner in darkness (7)
- Walks in new identity as children of light (8)
- Pursues all that is good, right and true (9)
- Learns what is pleasing to the Lord (10)



2. WALK IN LIGHT 5:3-14

- Expose Darkness (11-14)
- Simply by living out our identity

John 17:14-18

[14] I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. [15] I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. [16] They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. [17] Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. [18] As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.



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2. *WALK IN LIGHT* 5:3-14

WAKE UP O'SLEEPER

-Paul calls this 15-year-old church to wake from its slumber and not be distracted and lulled to sleep focused on the wrong things.



3. *WALK IN WISDOM (15-21)*

- Not as unwise but wise (15)
- Stewardship of time in every day living (not event to event)
- Understanding God's will (17)
- Avoid the worlds way of dealing with life (18)
- Our posture of heart in community, singing and encouraging and giving thanks (19-20)
- Submitting/Committing to Community (21)

(Coming under the umbrella of protection and care found only in the body of Christ)



3. *WALK IN WISDOM (15-21)*

The idea of walking with God is meant to be a daily lifestyle characterized by the truth we see throughout the scriptures and only takes place when his children are empowered by his spirit in communion with him.



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Ephesians 5:1-21

THEREFORE BE IMITATORS OF GOD

Walk in **Love**

Walk in **Light**

Walk in **Wisdom**





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