

Ephesians: Unsearchable riches of Christ

Study 25: Imitate God and Walk in Light

READ Eph 5:3-14 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Craig Baxter's [sermon](#).

Becoming a Christian entails the reception of an entirely new identity that Paul identifies as "light." Believers are here called to live in accordance with their new identity, which will involve two important activities: (1) Christians need to entirely dissociate themselves from lifestyles associated with "darkness," that is, evil, sinful behaviours; and, (2) Christians are to expose the wicked deeds of the world that the world might be saved, and confront sin in erring believers for them to be restored.

Main lesson: As God's beloved children we are to walk as children of light in this dark world, bearing the fruits of the spirit and exposing the deeds of darkness

Questions:

1. A. What does it mean that believers are children of light (v. 8)? See also John 1:4-5; 12:35-36; 1 John 1:5.

B. What does darkness and light imagery teach us about living the Christian life?
2. A. What are the deeds of darkness Christians are to avoid in vv. 3-4 and what do they mean? See also 1 Tim 1:9-10; 1Cor 6:9-11.

B. Why should such sins not be named among believers and why are they not proper nor fitting for believers? Consider the idea of identity. See Eph 1:4; 5:1.

3. There are professing Christians that argue that the Bible permits committed, loving homosexual relationships. How would you counter this with Scripture?
4. John Stott says that "Holiness is not a condition into which we drift". In what ways have you seen this to be true? How is your fight for holiness going?
5. Thanksgiving is the antidote to sin. How is thanksgiving an appropriate replacement for the six behaviours Paul is condemning in vv. 3-4?
6. What are some deceptive arguments people use to endorse sinful behaviour and how does knowing God will judge sin protect us from believing them (v. 6)?
7. A. In vv. 11-14, Paul calls believers to "take no part in unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them". Using the following verses how might you best do this? Matt 5:14-16; Eph 5:8-9, 14; 1 Cor 4:14; Matt 18:15-16; Gal 6:1.

B. Is there someone in your life God is burdening you to shine the light of truth upon? What might be some next steps to take to be obedient to this text?

STOP AND PRAY:

Praise: God in whom there is no darkness at all, but only perfect holiness

Thank: the Lord for shining His light upon your sin and drawing you to Himself

Pray: that you might have grace to walk in the light of the Word in all you do and say