

“Be Imitators of God – Walk In Light”- Part 2

- Ephesians 5:1a (ESV) “Therefore be imitators of God.”
- Ephesians 5:8 (ESV) ⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

I. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

- John 8:12 (ESV) “**I AM the LIGHT of the WORLD.** Whoever follows me will NEVER walk in DARKNESS, but will have the LIGHT of LIFE.”
- To be **IMITATORS** of God we must WALK in LIGHT.
- Ephesians 5:8 (ESV) “for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.”

II. HOW DO WE WALK IN LIGHT?

A. We walk in light by EXHIBITING Light. verse 8a, “...for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.”

1. Paul was writing to the **BELIEVERS** in the church of Ephesus. Prior to their **SALVATION**, believers were **DARKNESS**.
 2. However, **FOLLOWING** their **CONVERSION** to Christ, believers **NOW** are LIGHT in the LORD.
 3. WHETHER the Church is a full or thumbnail moon, whether waxing or waning, it **REFLECTS** the LIGHT of **CHRIST**. Our LIGHT does **not** ORIGINATE with us.
 4. Paul suggests that believers are **MORE** than a **REFLECTION** of the LIGHT of Christ. We ACTUALLY BECOME LIGHT.
 5. **OUR LIGHT** is DERIVED from **CHRIST**. It exists because of our **UNION** with Christ. Not a ray of light comes from OURSELVES.
- Matthew 5:14 (ESV) “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.”

- Ephesians 5:9 (ESV) “for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true.”
- 6. “The fruit of light” describes the result of **UNION** with Christ. Christ, who is God, is **GOOD** and **RIGHT** and **TRUE**.
- Ephesians 5:10 (ESV) “and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.”
- 7. “Try to discern” (*dokimazo*) means “to try, prove, discern, distinguish, approve.” It has the notion of **PROVING** a thing whether it is **WORTHY** or not.”
- 8. As Christians exhibit what is good and right and true, they will give verification that they **ARE WHO** they **CLAIM** to be.

B. We Walk in Light by EXPOSING Darkness.

- Ephesians 5:11 (ESV) Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead EXPOSE them.”
 - Ephesians 5:3 (ESV) “But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you.”
 - Ephesians 5:12 (ESV) “For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.”
1. The light of the **TRUTH** exposes **SIN**. It does no one any good to **HIDE** in the dark of **DENIAL**.
 2. Christ brought the **LIGHT** of His **PRESENCE** and the **LIGHT** of His **WORD** NOT to MAKE us **FEEL BAD**, but to **EXPOSE** the **DIRT** of **SIN** so we would want Him to CLEAN it up.
 3. And THAT is what **Christians** are still **CALLED** to do today. We are to **WALK** in **LIGHT** by **EXPOSING DARKNESS**. Sometimes we DO THAT simply by **OUR PRESENCE**.
 4. **OUR RESOURCE** for EXPOSING the unfruitful works of darkness is the **WORD** of God.
- Psalm 119:105 (ESV) “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”
 - Ephesians 5:13-14a (ESV) “But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light.”

5. That is WHY it is SO IMPORTANT for Christians to **KNOW GOD'S WORD**. It is the **LIGHT** of **GOD'S WORD** that **EXPOSES DARKNESS**.

C. We Walk in Light by **EXHORTING UNBELIEVERS**.

- **Ephesians 5:14b (ESV)** “*Therefore it says, “**Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.**”*”
- **Isaiah 60:1 (ESV)** “***Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.***”
 1. “**O sleeper**” describes every **UNBELIEVER** who walks in darkness, produces “*the unfruitful works of darkness.*”
 2. “**Arise from the dead**” is the exhortation to the **unbeliever** to **REPENT** and **TURN** FROM the **dead ways** of **sin**.
 3. “**Christ will shine on you**” is the **GOOD NEWS** of the **GOSPEL** that God has provided a **remedy** for every sinful person who **REPENTS** of sin and **BELIEVES** in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of sinners.
- **Ephesians 5:14b (ESV)** “*Therefore it says, “**Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.**”*”
- **Ephesians 5:8b (ESV)** “*... but now you are light in the Lord. **Walk as children of light.***”
- If we are **SERIOUS** about **IMITATING God**, we must **WALK in LIGHT**.
- We **WALK in Light** by **EXHIBITING** light, **EXPOSING** darkness, and **EXHORTING** unbelievers.
- **Ephesians 5:9 (ESV)** “*for the **FRUIT of LIGHT** is found in all that is **GOOD** and **RIGHT** and **TRUE.***”
- **Proverbs 4:18 (ESV)** “***But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.***”