

Walking Imitations

Ephesians 4:1 and 5:1-21

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Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

April 23, 2019

Ephesians 4:1

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called

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. 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.”

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.

Table Discussion Questions:

1. How is your walk? Or perhaps, what direction are you walking in?

2. What does it mean to be “in Christ?”
 - a. Even if you do not answer out loud, take time this week to consider and answer this.

3. Do you find yourself needing a *push* to walk with Christ or *patience* in your walk with Christ? Why?
 - a. Give an example of times in your life where you needed both.
 - b. If it helps, use the categories from the talk to describe where you need to be pushed and where you need to practice patience—walking in self-sacrificial love, walking in light, walking in wisdom.

4. Describe your favorite characteristics or qualities about God.
 - a. Now, describe those characteristics or qualities you imitate well.
 - b. Now, describe those characteristics or qualities you do NOT imitate well.