



## The Book of Ephesians

### Lesson 5: Chapter 5 – Dedication – Living a Life of Holiness

#### 1. Imitate Christ in the way you live.

##### Ephesians 5:1

Chapter five starts out with “therefore,” meaning it is the conclusion of chapter four where Paul talked about being kind, tenderhearted, forgiving, and not having bitterness, wrath, or malice in your heart.

Why do Christians act the way they act?

It is not because we have a list of rules.

It is because we have a relationship with God, our Father.

Definition of BE IMITATORS: To imitate God the same way children imitate their parents in acts, words, nature, and ways

##### Ephesians 5:2

This is the sacrifice we make.

If you are going to walk out the Christian life, there will be times when you are going to have to give yourself up as an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

It is unfortunate that we do not understand our sanctification better to understand that there will be times when loving someone and doing the right thing will hurt and cost something. It is sacrificial to do the right thing and walk in love. It is not always easy.

#### 2. Living in holiness

##### Ephesians 5:3-5

Six things forbidden for Christians:

- Fornication

This means any kind of sexual sin.

- \_\_\_\_\_

This refers to any physical or moral impurity. It is the same word used to describe demonic influence.

- Covetousness

Definition: Fraudulency, extortion, covetous practices, greediness

- \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: Shamefulness, obscenity

- Foolish talking / Coarse jesting

Definition of COARSE JESTING: Obscene, vulgar, exaggerated

- \_\_\_\_\_

People who are really saved and walking out their salvation do not have time for all these types of things. The salvation experience puts a desire in us for holiness, pleasing God, and not doing our own thing.

A thankful heart is a pure heart because you are always thanking God for what He is doing.

### **Ephesians 5:6, 7**

“Do not be partakers with them” means “do not associate with them”.

### **3. Walk as children of light.**

#### **Ephesians 5:8**

Christians do not have light. They are light!

Definition of WALK AS: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **John 1:5**

The word “comprehend” in the Greek language conveys this idea – Darkness does not have the ability to suppress or to hold the light under its domain.

Jesus is the light. But He also called His church the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). According to Ephesians 5:8 you are light. Therefore, this means the light of God always prevails, even in what may seem to be the darkest hour.

Darkness does not have the power or ability to put out God’s light! Satan does not have the power or ability to stop the light of the church.

### **Ephesians 5:9**

### **Ephesians 5:10**

#### **Ephesians 5:10 – Amplified Bible**

*And try to learn [in your experience] what is pleasing to the Lord [let your lives be constant proofs of what is most acceptable to Him].*

### **Ephesians 5:11**

#### **Ephesians 5:11 – Amplified Bible**

*Take no part in and have no fellowship with the fruitless deeds and enterprises of darkness, but instead [let your lives be so in contrast as to] expose and reprove and convict them.*

### **Ephesians 5:12-14**

#### **4. Wise instructions from Paul the Apostle to the church**

### **Ephesians 5:15**

Definition of CIRCUMSPECTLY: To walk cautiously and sensitively, as a person would walk through thorny terrain.

### **Ephesians 5:16**

“Redeeming the time” means \_\_\_\_\_

### **Ephesians 5:17**

Wisdom is understanding God’s will.

### **Ephesians 5:18**

Definition of BE FILLED: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 5:19, 20**

Christians are supposed to be happy!

**5. Marriage – God’s picture of the church****Ephesians 5:21-33**

Paul is making it clear that he is not just talking about marriage, but about the Church. It is God’s Church. We are invited to the wedding. We form the body, called the Bride.

It is His Church. None of us have a church. They are too expensive. You have to die to get one. It’s the body of Christ. We are incorporated into His body. It’s His plan, His design, His doctrine, His demonstration, His destination.

God gave Himself up for us. We, in turn, give ourselves up for others.

Facts about Christ and the church

- Christ is the head of the church and the Savior of it. – Ephesians 5:23
- The church must be subject to Christ in all things. – Ephesians 5:24
- Christ loves the church and gave Himself for the it. – Ephesians 5:25
- Christ sanctifies and cleanses the church with His Word. – Ephesians 5:26
- \_\_\_\_\_ – Ephesians 5:27
- Christ is making the church glorious, spotless, perfect, holy, and faultless. – Ephesians 5:28
- Christ nourishes and cherishes the church. – Ephesians 5:29
- \_\_\_\_\_ . – Ephesians 5:30

**6. What Ephesians teaches about marriage.****Ephesians 5:22**

When we study the Bible, we allow the scripture to interpret scripture.

With that in mind, let’s also look at 1 Peter.

**1 Peter 3:1**

The word “subjection” is the same Greek word in Ephesians 5:22 translated “submit”.

Definition of SUBJECTION:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- To submit
- The word was used to describe soldiers who were expected to fall in line and submit to their commanding officers.
- Every time the word was used it described a relationship of someone who is submitted to some type of authority and who is expected to act according to that order of authority.

The word is also used in these other verses:

### **1 Timothy 3:4**

### **Luke 2:51**

This verse shows the power and importance of the word “submit”. Jesus is the Son of God and ultimately Joseph and Mary would submit to Him. However, this shows us the importance of the order God has set in the family. Jesus willingly submitted to the authority the Father gave to His parents.

In 1 Peter 3:1, Peter is encouraging wives in this way – “Wives, you need to position yourselves under your husband’s authority. This is God’s order for the home, so do all you can to become supportive of your husband.”

After instructing wives to submit to their husbands, Paul writes for husbands to love their wives.

### **Ephesians 5:25**

One of the greatest needs of a husband is to have a \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The greatest need of a wife is for her husband to \_\_\_\_\_

There is nowhere in the Bible where it instructs wives to love their husbands. Why?

Answer: Because a husband perceives his wife’s love when he senses her support.

Marriage is a team and there is nowhere in the Bible where a wife is expected to be a doormat. However, when a wife follows her husband in a supportive and happy way, it communicates love to him. This then causes the husband to want to show his wife love.

It all comes full circle when a husband then loves his wife like Christ loves the church. A wife will have no problem submitting to her husband when he is laying down his life for her. It will be a joy for her to be supportive.

This is why a wife should not constantly correct a husband. This does not mean you can never have honest conversations. However, constantly being in a corrective role will only cause distance between a husband and a wife.

When a wife sees things that need to be corrected it is better for her to bring them to God in prayer.

### **Ephesians 5:33 – Amplified Bible**

*However, let each man of you [without exception] love his wife as [being in a sense] his very own self; and let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband [that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, venerates, and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly].*

It is also important to note that the Bible does not tell women to submit to men, but rather wives to their husbands.

Some men have a problem submitting to a woman. But this must be done if she has a place of authority (on the job, church, police officer, etc.)

If you have a hard time following a leader, you can never be one yourself.