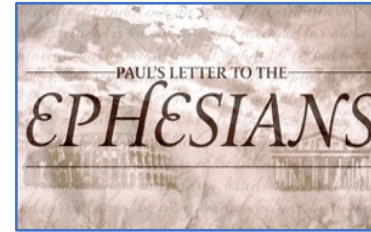


## NOTES



*Let Your Light Shine, Living Lights  
in a Dark World*

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Ephesians 5:1 – 14

John Aldax - Sierra Community Church

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Ephesians 5:1 – 14 – <sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. <sup>3</sup> Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people. <sup>4</sup> Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. <sup>5</sup> For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partners with them. <sup>8</sup> For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. So live as people of light! <sup>9</sup> For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.

<sup>10</sup> Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. <sup>12</sup> It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. <sup>13</sup> But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them, <sup>14</sup> for the light makes everything visible. This is why it is said,  
“Awake, O sleeper,  
rise up from the dead,  
and Christ will give you light.”

Psalms 119:105 – Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. (NIV)

Psalms 119:43 – 45 – <sup>43</sup>Never take your word of truth from my mouth, for I have put my hope in your laws. <sup>44</sup>I will always obey your law, for ever and ever. <sup>45</sup>I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts. (NIV)

Psalms 119:129 – 130 – <sup>129</sup>Your statutes are wonderful; therefore I obey them. <sup>130</sup>The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. (NIV)

John 1:18 – No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God, and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. (NIV)

John 14:9, “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” (NIV)

John 13:12 – 17 – <sup>12</sup>When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. <sup>13</sup>“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup>I have ***set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*** <sup>16</sup>Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup>Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. (NIV)

1 Corinthians 11:1 – Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. (ESV)

Hebrews 6:12 – We do not want you to become lazy, but to ***imitate*** those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised. (NIV)

Philippians 2:5 – <sup>5</sup>In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: (another way of saying “imitate him”) <sup>6</sup>Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to cling to; <sup>7</sup>rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! (NIV)

1 Peter 2:21 – To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, ***leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.***

<sup>22</sup>“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” <sup>23</sup>When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. (NIV)

What is our ***new identity***? We are:

- Dearly loved children – vs 1
- Saints = lit. holy ones – vs 3
- Children of light – vs 8

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What is the “ONE THING” Paul wants us to take away from this passage?

IF YOU HAVE COMMITTED YOURSELF TO CHRIST, YOU ARE NO LONGER DARKNESS – YOU ARE LIGHT . . . LIVE LIKE IT!

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2 Corinthians 5:17 – . . . anyone who belongs to Christ has become a ***new person***. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! (NLT)

“Paul doesn’t tell people to become someone new. He tells them to become like ***who they really are***. Your new identity is the beginning point.” (*Bible Project class on Ephesians*)

As people who claim to follow Jesus, let’s be characterized by ***goodness, fairness, truthfulness, kindness, purity, graciousness, and gratitude.***

Let’s live like who ***we really are*** in Christ.

Community Group Questions:

1. What is the most important takeaway for you in this passage?
2. What does “darkness” and “light” look like in our culture today?
3. How can our “true identity” become more of a reality regardless how we feel? E.g. I rarely *feel* like a “holy one.” How can I connect to the reality of that identity?