

“Intentionally Walking as People of Love and Light” 3/01/2020

Ephesians 5:1-14

Sermon Series: *Living out God’s Riches for God’s Glory*

Big Idea- The previous chapters have revealed to us the amazing blessings of God that He has given and done for us (1:3-5) and now we are commanded to walk worthy of this calling (4:1). Specifically, this walk includes love and light.

LESSON 1- An intentional walk is one done in LOVE Vv. 1-7

- A. Our walk must seek to imitate the character of GOD (5:1; It is our obligation to be like our Dad; love/mercy- Luke 6:35-36)
- B. To walk in love to is to love God and to love our NEIGHBOR (Two greatest commandments- Matt 22:37-40; 1 Corinthians 13:1-7)
- C. We are given the greatest example by seeing JESUS (Love is evidenced by sacrifice- John 15:12-14; Luke 9:23-25)
- D. A genuine walk will not partake with unrepentant SINNERS (sexual immorality, uncleanness, greed, filthy thinking/talking “coarse joking”- double entendres or seeking to be coarse witty)
- E. A genuine walk will be characterized by TRUTH (Sins which keep people out of heaven; risk of being deceived)

“They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.” Titus 1:16

LESSON 2- An intentional walk is one done in LIGHT Vv. 8-14

- A. We should have a love for goodness, righteousness, and TRUTH (fruit of light is similar to fruit of the Spirit- Galatians 5:22-23)
- B. An honest attempt at discerning what is God’s WILL

God’s will is that we are Spirit-filled (5:18), sanctified (1 Thess 4:3), submissive (1 Peter 2:13-15), suffering (1 Pet 2:20), and thankful (1 Thess 5:18). For gray areas see 1 Cor 6:12; 10:23-33; Romans 14:1-23.

- C. No fellowship with darkness, but rather to EXPOSE its errors (Eph 5:11; 1 Corinthians 5:9-12 show good principle of association)

Application *God wants us to walk in gratitude, love, and light!*

Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples

1 Corinthians 13:1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but I do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away everything I own, and if I give over my body in order to boast, but do not have love, I receive no benefit. ⁴ Love is patient, love is kind, it is not envious. Love does not brag, it is not puffed up. ⁵ It is not rude, it is not self-serving, it is not easily angered or resentful. (1 Cor. 13:1 NET)

1 Corinthians 5:9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people. ¹⁰ In no way did I mean the immoral people of this world, or the greedy and swindlers and idolaters, since you would then have to go out of the world. (1 Cor. 5:9 NET)