

## Sermon Discussion Questions

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Burrell

Topic: Ephesians

Scripture: Ephesians 5:1-21

- Briefly summarize the main points of the sermon.
- What questions do you still have from today's sermon?
- Read Vv. Ephesians 5:1-7
  - What does Paul command the believers to do in verse 1, and how does this reflect their new identity in Christ?
  - How does Paul describe the life that reflects God's character in verses 2-3? What specific behaviors are mentioned as being inconsistent with the "beloved children" of God?
  - What are the consequences of the behaviors mentioned in verses 5-7? How does Paul describe those who engage in them?
  - How can we actively "imitate God" in our daily lives, especially in our relationships with others? (See 1 John 2:6.)
  - In what specific areas of your life do you need to align more closely with God's holiness, avoiding behaviors that are inconsistent with being His child? (See 1 Peter 1:14-16.)
  - How can the church help one another avoid the destructive behaviors Paul warns against in verses 3-7? (See Galatians 6:1-2.)
- Read Vv. Ephesians 5:8-14
  - What does Paul say about the believers' past and present identity in verses 8-9? How does this contrast with their former way of life?
  - How does Paul describe the fruit of the light in verse 9? What characteristics should the believer's life exhibit as a result of walking in the light?
  - In verse 11, Paul tells the believers not to "participate in the unfruitful works of darkness." What does he urge them to do instead?
  - What does it mean to "expose" the works of darkness (v. 11), and how is this related to how the light of Christ works in believers?
  - How can we "walk as children of light" in a world filled with darkness, and what might that look like in practical terms? (See Philippians 2:14-15.)
  - How does our identity in Christ, as children of light, shape the way we interact with others, especially in morally challenging situations? (See Matthew 5:14-16.)
  - What are some ways the church can "expose" the works of darkness in a way that is loving and redemptive, rather than judgmental? (See 1 John 1:5-7.)
- Read Vv. Ephesians 5:15-21
  - What does Paul mean by "walking wisely" in verse 15? What specific behavior does he encourage in verse 16?
  - How does Paul contrast being "filled with the Spirit" with being drunk with wine in verse 18? What is the result of being filled with the Spirit in verses 19-21?
  - What are the practical ways that being filled with the Spirit is expressed in the lives of believers, according to verses 19-21?
  - How can we "make the best use of the time" in our daily lives, especially in light of the challenges and distractions that fill our days? (See Colossians 4:5-6.)
  - How does being filled with the Spirit affect the way we approach worship, relationships, and even our work? (See Galatians 5:22-23.)
  - In what ways can we encourage one another to live wisely and spiritually, fostering a culture of mutual submission and honoring God in everything? (See Hebrews 10:24-25.)