

Ephesians

Lesson #19, Chapter 5:1-14

Prepare your heart for this lesson by spending some time in prayer before you begin. □

1. Verse 1 begins with *therefore*. What thoughts are being pulled together from the previous verses and Ephesians 5:1?
2. Why are we to be imitators of God according to verse 1?
3. Verse 2 reveals how we can begin to be imitators of God. What do you learn? Who is the supreme example of this trait?
4. How does the explanation in verse 2 of how to walk in love help make the command more practical?
5. What do the following verses teach you about imitating God? See Matt. 5:48; Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; 1 Pet. 1:14-16; 1 Jn. 3:1-2.
6. You cannot imitate what you don't know. What is the number one way you can get to know God so that you can begin to imitate Him? If you long to be more like God, what should you do? See Acts 20:32; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; and 1 Pet. 2:1-3 for a hint.

7. Just in case we don't understand the scope of what it means to imitate God, Paul explains further by telling us not to do something in verse 3. What does he tell us not to do and why (verse 3)?

8. Define *immorality* (NKJV *fornication* [Strong's #4202]), *impurity* (NKJV *uncleanness* [Strong's #167]), and *greed* (ESV, NKJV *covetousness* [Strong's #4121]).

9. In verse 4 Paul lists more traits that are not fitting for believers to engage in. What are we *not* supposed to do? What are we to make sure we do?

10. Define *filthiness* (NIV *obscenity* [Strong's #151]), *silly* or *foolish talk* [Strong's #3473], and *coarse jesting* (ESV *crude joking* [Strong's #2160]).

11. What do you know for sure according to verse 5?

12. What does that information have to do with what Paul has been saying in verses 1-4?

13. What warning does Paul give the Ephesians in verse 6? Why was that warning necessary?

14. What do you know about the *sons of disobedience* from verses 5-6 and 2:1-3?

15. It is because of what you learned in verses 5-6 that we are not to be partakers with them. Define *partakers* (ESV, NIV *partners* [Strong's #4830]).

16. What further reasons for not being partakers with the sons of disobedience are given in verses 8-10?

17. How can you learn what is pleasing to the Lord? What *attitudes* go along with a desire to please the Lord? Are you characterized by a desire to please the Lord *today*?

18. Paul helps us out by explaining what walking as children of light looks like. What do you learn in verse 9?

19. What admonitions are we given in verse 11? Why (verse 12)?

20. Define *expose* (KJV *reprove* [Strong's #1651]).

21. People may think that they are able to sin in secret, but what do we know with certainty (verse 13)? See also Ps. 90:8; Jn. 3:20-21; 1 Cor. 4:5; Heb. 4:13.

22. Explain how verse 14 is a summary of the previous verses. Look at Rom. 13:11-13 and 1 Thess. 5:1-10 to see how they echo verse 14.

23. Even though we are new creatures in Christ, there are times when the vestiges of our old life still cling to us. We must shed that old life and walk as children of light. Name 1 or 2 areas that you need to work on from verses 1-14. What plan do you have for dealing with those areas?

A sheep may fall into a ditch, but it is the swine that wallows in it. ~William Gurnall¹

It is your duty and glory to do that every day that you would willingly do upon a dying day.

Ah, how would you live and love upon a dying day?

How would you admire God, rest upon God, delight in God, long for God, and walk with God, upon a dying day?
How would you hate, loathe, and abhor your bosom sins upon a dying day? . . . Thrice happy is that soul that labors with all his might to do that at first that he would give a thousand worlds to do on a dying day. ~Thomas Brooks²

¹Gurnall, William. *A Puritan Golden Treasury*. Ed. I. D. E. Thomas. Carlisle, Pennsylvania: The Banner of Truth Trust. 271.

²Brooks, Thomas. *A Puritan Golden Treasury*. Ed. I. D. E. Thomas. Carlisle, Pennsylvania: The Banner of Truth Trust. 281.