



July 16

READ & DIG.

Passage: Ephesians 5:1-21

Read Ephesians 5:1-21 I would encourage you to read Eph. 4. It has all the Eph 5:1 'therefore' in it.

Therefore walk it out. (v1)

Walk what out? Therefore always says to look backwards, what is this there for? The previous chapters we have been pointed a lot toward God's redemptive plan to save us through Christ's blood. Then we paused to pray, help us get this Lord. Chapter 4 set the pace of God has a plan of putting off and putting on to set us up to follow Him better. God always has the perfect order. So now, what should I walk out for Christ because of all that Paul mentioned in the past chapters? We are called in verse 1 to imitate Christ. How?

Love (V.2-5)

Be willing to love like Christ. In order to do that it is called a sacrifice. That means we must give up our self desires to love more like Him. Some of the things we must give up are listed here...sexual sins, greed, filthy mouths, foolish talk, crude jokes (seriously this is scripture y'all and your language is said in 3 different ways here...lockerroom, bandroom, and texting talk has to be pure! You are hurting the name of Christ and not imitating Him with your ugly language and filthy mouth and jokes, so stop. Just stop it! WALK AWAY!), and last idols. God says you have no part in the inheritance we've discussed if you can't quite and live Holy (remember living holy is an overflow you can't help but have if you are saved. There will be mistakes, but mistakes bring about conviction because the Holy Spirit lives in you.) And last, there is a do this...be thankful it fills you with Christ's love when you see things through thankful eyes.

Light (V.6-14)

Basically, nothing good happens in the dark. Sin/Satan=darkness. Christ=light. Any spark of light can overtake darkness. If you have been saved then you should be a walking light for Jesus. What happens in the dark will always come out by the light...always, rest assured. Yep, go back to the children's song. This little light of mine...don't let Satan blow it out...if you are constantly living in the darkness you USED to be a part of then your light is null and void (was it ever lit?). It looks ridiculous to hear you say you are a Christian and you constantly are dishonoring God. You should have a conviction to live in the light rather than darkness. You are probably uncomfortable around the sinful jokes, talk, and actions. WAKE up sleeping giant! I pray this often for this youth group. You are a room full of sleeping giants that could bring about a spiritual revival in your generation in Carrollton. You are good kids okay with being good. WAKE UP! You can do this! Amp up your light. Be bold. Stand up and out! You are a youth group full of all different kinds of personalities that are in every group in our schools. You are an amazing body of believers. You can do it!

Wisdom (V.15-21)

Don't be stupid (Prov. 12:1). Don't turn from the instruction Paul is offering here. Your time is limited. Make the most of it. Don't play around with things that aren't eternal. Use the amazing gifts (band, ball, friendships, technology, and academics) God has given you as the avenue to be the light. Surprise your peers by offering something that last eternally. You are around the most people you will typically be around In school daily. Awake you sleeping giants.

Apply & Go

Cease the day! Walk out the love of Christ, be His light, and accept wisdom from those that love you, and offer it to those you love. This is your time. Walk out your faith.