

## Living as God's Treasured Possession Part VI: Walking in Love

Ephesians 5:1-21

Therefore be Imitators of God - 5:1-2

Therefore Do Not Become Partakers With Them - 5:3-16

Therefore Do Not Be Foolish - 5:17-21

Therefore be Imitators of God - 5:1-2

Ephesians 5:1-2 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.

Ephesians 2:4-5 **But God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

Ephesians 5:3 **But sexual immorality** and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

Sexual immorality (porneia): sexual sin of a general kind, that includes many different behaviors.

Matthew 15:19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

Ephesians 5:3 But sexual immorality and all **impurity** or **covetousness** must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

Impurity (akathisia): immorality, sexual impurity

Romans 1:24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,

Covetousness (pleonexia): greed; avarice

Colossians 3:5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness, which is idolatry**.

Ephesians 5:3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even **be named** among you, as is proper among saints.

Be named (onomazō): mention; speak about

Ephesians 5:3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is **proper among saints**.  
proper (prepō): be fitting

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as **fits the occasion**, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Ephesians 5:4 Let there be no **filthiness** nor **foolish talk** nor **crude joking**, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

Filthiness (aischrotēs): obscenity; indecent behavior

One thing is sure – filthy speech means a filthy heart. We must never rationalize this truth.

Hughes, R. Kent. 1990. [\*Ephesians: The Mystery of the Body of Christ\*](#). Preaching the Word. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.

Foolish talk (mōrologia): talk which is both foolish and stupid.

The word refers to one who makes light of high standards of behavior, thinking that it is somehow funny or sophisticated to tear down anything that is high or praiseworthy or ennobling. It is what television does. Television pretends to be funny, but it is destructive of those values that hold a society together and suppress its worst elements.

Boice, James Montgomery. 1988. [\*Ephesians: An Expository Commentary\*](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Ministry Resources Library.

2 Timothy 2:23 Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels.

Titus 3:9 But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

Crude joking (eutrapelia): vulgar, indecent speech; sarcastic speech meant to get a rise out of someone.

Ephesians 5:3–4 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. <sup>4</sup>Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, **but instead let there be thanksgiving**.

Thanksgiving (eucharistia): thankfulness; gratitude

Ephesians 5:5 For **you may be sure of this**, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), **has no inheritance** in the kingdom of Christ and God.

1 Corinthians 6:9–10 Or do you not know that the unrighteous **will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived: **neither** the sexually immoral, **nor** idolaters, **nor** adulterers, **nor** men who practice homosexuality, **nor** thieves, **nor** the greedy, **nor** drunkards, **nor** revilers, **nor** swindlers **will inherit the kingdom of God**.

1 Corinthians 6:18 **Flee** from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

Flee (fuego): become a fugitive.

1 Corinthians 5:11 But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, **20** for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Ephesians 5:6 Let no one **deceive** you with **empty** words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

Deceive (apataō): to mislead; deceive.

Empty (Kenos): without anything; empty-handed; foolish; stupid

Ephesians 5:7 Therefore do not become partners with them;

Partners (symmetochos): joint owner, sharer; partaking with

Holiness is not a condition the believer simply drifts into. The Christian life, the life that pleases God, involves effort.

Hamilton, Ian. 2017. [Ephesians](#). Edited by Joel R. Beeke and Jon D. Payne. The Lectio Continua Expository Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids, MI:

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called**,

Ephesians 5:1 Therefore **be imitators of God**, as beloved children.

Titus 2:11–14 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>**training us to renounce** ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-

controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

God is with us and for us we are to work to be holy, but he also works in us.

Philippians 2:12–13 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

One thing we can all do to help us live in a way that is pleasing to God in every area of our lives is to commit to memory Colossians 3:1-17. Let us as a church commit this passage of Scripture to memory over the next two weeks.