

# Works of the Flesh / Fruit of the Spirit

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Part 5

Scripture: Galatians 5:16-26

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 5:1-6

INTRO:

Thank you for that reading \_\_\_\_\_ and if you still have your bible open to that scripture, I want us to just quickly note verses 1 and 2 of proverbs chapter 5, it says;

*My son, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding,*

*2 That you may preserve discretion, And your lips may keep knowledge.*

To preserve discretion, and have lips that keep knowledge are two things that have become very lacking in our world today. And with discretion and knowledge lacking, this sin which we will be looking at today is only growing. Well, we are still in Galatians chapter 5 verse 19, and we are looking at the works of the flesh that Paul lists here in this verse.

And my aim with these messages was that when we come to such things that these verses are talking about, that we would stop and think ‘what do these words all encompass’, ‘where does such sin start,’ ‘how DO these things find their way into my own heart as the seeds of temptations and desires, only to grow into some greater sin later on? My aim was to answer such questions and give us a real-life application to what these works of the flesh all entail.

Like I have said in the previous messages, sometimes or maybe more often than not, we skip over such lists as the one we are looking at and simply check them off in thinking they don’t apply to me and go on with our reading. But in reality, any one of us can become caught up in any one of these works of the flesh if we allow the beginnings of them into our heart. No one is immune to sin in this world, and especially if we are not watchful.

And by now you should have picked up on what Paul’s theme is in these first 3 words of verse 19, in that they all center around some form or type of physical immorality and this forth one which is called lewdness is of that same theme, a similar kind of sin, one that is committed with the body.

#### D. Lewdness

And one of the first things to note here as far as grammar goes, from this verse and others that we have looked previously that lewdness is not adultery, it is not fornication, and it is not uncleanness. And also vice versa, none of the others are part of each other except that they are all different forms or categories of physical sins committed with the body.

Adultery and fornication as we have learned are narrow terms, they are sins committed by the married which is then called adultery and sins of the unmarried which is then called fornication. In the last message, we looked at uncleanness and I believe it is a broad term, covering everything else outside of adultery and fornication.

And now when we come to lewdness, we should already know that it is not adultery or fornication or uncleanness as we covered that last time.

In the Greek, it is the word aselgeia a-sel-g'ay-a Strong's number 766. In the New King James Version as we have it here in the verse, it is translated as Lewdness, in the King James Version it is translated lasciviousness. Other versions translate it as sensuality, or debauchery, immodesty, or promiscuity, all correct depending on what part of lewdness they are referring to or what aspect or thought the translator wanted to address or emphasize.

## The Strong's

says this in the definition of the word;

A compound word with a negative particle 'A' and the word selges *which* apparently means content,

If you remember, in the Greek the 'A' at the beginning makes the word the opposite as with the words muse and amuse, thus changing the word contentment to 'discontentment', but then it goes on to define this word as meaning;

licentiousness (sometimes including other vices): —  
filthy, las-civi-ous-ness, and wantonness.

And I would explain it as a form of discontentment with the normal actions of human attraction or discretion, which then becomes the expression or lewd display of that life or practice with the intent of attracting or drawing others into that mindset or lifestyle, which then can lead to filthy life practices as with uncleanness, fornication and adultery, all of which we have looked at in the previous messages. This I would say is lewdness.

It is used as a narrow term in scripture but can include a broad range of things. Because if I understand these words correctly, uncleanness and lewdness are still distinctly separate, different at their core but

may overlap in some of the broader outreaches of their actions and doings.

For if we look at the definitions and their use in scripture, I think one can live in uncleanness and not be lewd about it, or, one can be lewd and never participate or practice uncleanness. Now you may think that sounds like a contradiction, thinking that they are all one in the same, but I assure you, they are not, for if they were the same, Paul would not have made the distinction in this verse and in others such as 2 Corinthians 21:12 which says;

*lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not repented of the uncleanness, fornication, and lewdness which they have practiced.*

As I said in the previous message, uncleanness is the act or the practice of people living in lifestyles as we noted in Romans chapter 1 and in 1 Corinthians 6, and in our world, it is the woke of uncleanness that is changing policies in law, in government and changing school curriculum and is the power we see used in the medical system.

I think lewdness is the outward expression of uncleanness and other illegitimate lifestyles as something you would see in a gay pride

parade. But it is also as the Online Bible Greek Lexicon defines it as; unbridled lust, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, and insolence as something you would find in the Carnival in Rio de Janeiro. And all of these are not new to humanity but with the lack of discretion and knowledge in the world, lewdness is growing.

And to show us this turn your bibles to the book of 2 Peter, twice in this second letter Peter uses this word and the first time is where it refers to Lot living in Sodom, and second is when he talks about those who have escaped the sins of the world. The first is in chapter 2 verses 6 through 8 where he says;

*and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes,  
condemned them to destruction, making them an example  
to those who afterward would live ungodly;*

*7 and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the  
filthy (this is the word) conduct of the wicked*

*8 (for that righteous man, dwelling among them,  
tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and  
hearing their lawless deeds) —*

Here I think Peter shows us the difference between lewdness which is translated filthy, and the uncleanness that was happening in the city of Sodom. First it says lot was ‘oppressed’ by their lewd conduct, and

how was he oppressed or why was he oppressed, well it says this ‘torment’ was from ‘day to day’ in seeing their lewdness and then also hearing of their uncleanness. You see it was not a city where this uncleanness was hidden, it was not a city where it looked all nice and proper on the outside, no, it says it tormented Lots righteous soul from day to day by seeing, and hearing, of their lawless deeds as Peter calls it in the end of the verse.

It was some form of open visible expression of their conduct that oppressed Lot, and not only visible, it was also talked about, possibly quite openly as the verse says ‘from day to day’ this occurred. This display of filthy conduct was all over the place, and probably without conscience or restraint or discretion.

Now the whole context of the chapter is about false teachers who teach and promote immorality and when we come down to verse 18 he describes the tactics of such teachers or promoters of this immorality, in verse 18 he says

*For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness,  
they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness,  
the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in  
error.*

Peter says these false teachers ‘allure’, that is to entice or to catch with bait, and draw in those who actually escaped this at one point in their past. And what is it that these false teachers draw them with... well it is the lusts of the flesh, these works of the flesh, we have covered in the last few messages, and what is the bait? What is the shiny thing that catches their eyes and ears to these sins? The bait is lewdness, that expression or promotion of these lusts. It is through lewdness that people are caught and enticed back into the things of the flesh.

You see, last time I talked about this woke of uncleanness and the amount of power that this movement has somehow found is staggering, and almost unfathomable. In the last few years, it has gained the power to destroy businesses and eliminate and shut down those who do not conform. The ability to subvert government in gaining legal and political impunity and empowering the medical system to unleash experimental practices on perfectly healthy young boys and girls, totally overruling any parental decision or opposition with criminal punishment. It has been given the power to almost completely, completely rewrite the school curriculum to fit their agenda.

And all of this is the power of this woke and the heavy hand of uncleanness. But you see, you do not change society with just power and might. This is nothing more than the heavy hand of evil gaining



power, over those who do not submit, for no one conforms to such things willingly and wholly through such means. No, it is usually the subversion of society that truly changes society, and that subversion does not only come from the mighty hand of this woke of uncleanness but by the subversion of society that comes from lewdness which contains the enticing aspect of this sin.

As Peter said; ‘For when they speak great swelling *words* of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness,’. Young people are not being swayed to these ‘lawless deeds’ through wicked policies and lawmaking, not through oppression of righteousness, no, they are swayed through lewdness, through gay pride parades and drag queen story time and things like the Carnival but these are only the bigger ones. There are many other forms of lewdness that are out there around us, and it is through these forms of lewdness that entice and tempt people to uncleanness, and it is the alluring through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness that most of society is given into the hands of the devil.

The monster of woke is only there to smash the conservative ones, to bully the ones who resist, to infiltrate society and churches. This uncleanness is the description of lifestyles they live in. Lewdness is where they entice them and reel them in through the lusts of the flesh through open shameless conduct.

Solomon gives us a very clear vivid example of the process of such lewdness in the proverbs. and if you turn to proverbs chapter 7 in your bibles you can follow along with some of the verses I will be reading. In Proverbs chapter 7, Solomon opens the first 4 verses with warning and commands his son to keep his commands and keep wisdom near at heart so that as verse 5 says;

*That they may keep you from the immoral woman, From the seductress who flatters with her words.*

Going on in verse 6 he says;

*For at the window of my house I looked through my lattice,*

*7 And saw among the simple, I perceived among the youths, A young man devoid of understanding,*

*8 Passing along the street near her corner; And he took the path to her house*

*9 In the twilight, in the evening, In the black and dark night.*

*10 And there a woman met him, With the attire of a harlot, and a crafty heart.*

*11 She was loud and rebellious, Her feet would not stay at home.*

*12 At times she was outside, at times in the open square,  
Lurking at every corner.*

*13 So she caught him and kissed him; With an impudent  
face she said to him:*

*14 "I have peace offerings with me; Today I have paid my  
VOWS.*

*15 So I came out to meet you, Diligently to seek your face,  
And I have found you.*

And then down to verse 21;

*With her enticing speech she caused him to yield, With her  
flattering lips she seduced him.*

Now does that sound like policy making... or governmental legislation... or the changing of school curriculum to you? No, it does not, this is lewdness, mixing in temptation and desire, the alluring lusts of the flesh, to draw people ‘into’ the sinful things of uncleanness. To draw them into the sins of their own desires and enticements if they are there, and as James says when it is full grown will bring forth death. Just listen to Solomon’s concluding words of the chapter starting in verse 24 where he says;

*Now therefore, listen to me, my children; Pay attention to the words of my mouth:*

*25 Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, Do not stray into her paths;*

*26 For she has cast down many wounded, And all who were slain by her were strong men.*

*27 Her house is the way to hell, Descending to the chambers of death.*

Hell and death, because of this woman who baited the young man with the lusts of the flesh, with lewdness. Because if you look at verses 10 through 15 what sin has she committed up to this point? Up to verse 15 there is no adultery, there is no fornication there is no uncleanness, unless you class the kiss as uncleanness, but what is there in verses 10 through 15... it is lewdness, the licentiousness filthy wantonness with discontentment, for what does Solomon say about her in verses 19 and 20?

*For my husband is not at home; He has gone on a long journey;*

*20 He has taken a bag of money with him, And will come home on the appointed day."*

And then verse 21;

*With her enticing speech she caused him to yield, With her flattering lips she seduced him.*

And buy now you may be looking at this big picture of all of this and thinking to yourself 'I'm just so glad that I'm not caught up or part of such sins as this'. Well, when we look at the big picture of this lewdness, as in the proverb, I'm sure that we are not part of such things. But one of the biggest dangers of the devil is that he doesn't always work in the big picture. He doesn't always act out in the big steps of sin, no, far too often he takes a very subtle approach, a very mild progression, and begins with the almost unnoticeable things in our lives when drawing us in.

If he always used big steps or obvious tactics, the whole world or much of it would reel in disgust and be appalled at what was happening to them or around them. How else do you think he gets people to where they are when it comes to living in or committing these gross sins? One little step at a time. One little compromise after another, one little bad choice after another.

And I think that when the sins of uncleanness become bold and more prevalent, that the sin of lewdness becomes shameless and more abundant. For if we look at history, lewdness only comes to light more

so when uncleanness is no longer frowned upon or hidden. This is why there is such a push, such movements in promoting all kinds of uncleanness, so that lewdness can also be empowered and put out even farther into society.

And lewdness is well out there in our world. And if I were to now give you the smaller pieces of that big picture, that applicable part for your life, of how lewdness can come in subtle ways into our lives, we have to look at the little things, because that is where the devil always begins. All of these works of the flesh begin somewhere small, in the dark hidden places of our soul.

Now on some of these you may say I'm knit-picking, or not 'in touch' with the modern way of things, but whichever way you call it the devil will seek a way to start something in all of us if we are not careful.

And as I go over just some of these smaller pieces for your life, in the things to watch for, things that may apply to 'your' heart, remember this is only my list, and my observation of what I see happening in the world. Some may think I am overreacting, that I am too conservative; others may even think I'm too liberal. But when we are talking about lewdness for this section, it will not always be a drastic impulse, an out in the open kind of lewdness as we read of in

Proverbs 7, but a much lesser obvious approach. And it is this less obvious subtle approach I want to address, because as I said before, I don't think any of us are in any of the serious grips of entertaining or promoting lewdness, I sure hope not, but to draw our attention to some of the smaller less noticeable ones we may allow into our lives, and thus give the devil a toe hold in our hearts.

And there are two realms or areas I want to look at and I will call them passive lewdness and active lewdness. Passive lewdness I would class as the things we are bombarded with on a daily basis and usually have little or no control over. Active would be some of the things we perhaps unknowingly promote or do ourselves and always have control over.

And if you are thinking to yourself, that I am implying or insinuating that we have all indulged or taken part in some kind of lewdness, that I the pastor am pointing the finger at you, rest assured it is not me that is pointing the finger, it is actually the apostle Peter who is pointing the finger at all of us when he says;

*For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.*

## 1 Peter 4:3

And I know he is right, because the bible is never wrong, and when it says we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the gentiles walking in lewdness and some of these other sins, that means we, in some form or another, were part of some of, it if not all of these things he pointed out.

Passive lewdness is lewdness that we are bombarded with in many places in this world. If we look at the realm of advertising in our world, things like billboards, mall posters, digital signs, the advertising in magazines, app ads, game ads, TV commercials, radio commercials, side bar ads on the internet, web site pop up's if not blocked, many of these contain elements of lewdness. To catch your mind and to draw you in with that shameless presentation of lewdness.

Listen, in our day there does not have to be a physical person present for it to be lewd as the woman in proverbs 7, it can come in the many forms of media that I just mentioned. And it has become so prevalent in this area of advertising, that society is beginning to treat it as just normal. But in reality much of this is just plain out in the open lewdness, and it has two purposes; 1 to catch your attention to the product they are selling through the means of lust, and desires of the flesh, and 2 the devil who is behind it all, wants to get your mind



in the direction he wants it to go; to sell you into other sins. To ware us down to a level where we become compliant and normalize us with this sin.

Dennis Prager from Prager university says this in one of his videos about the advertising in our day and says;

That's why you see ads on billboards, on TV, and in magazines for every sort of product a man might buy, accompanied by a scantily clad woman -- or, sometimes, just part of her.

EOQ

And why do companies do this, because they know it appeals to the flesh, it is a form of lewdness that draws them in, just like the man devoid of understanding, falling prey to immoral woman of Proverbs 7.

Dennis Prager goes on to say;

Would you ever see an ad showing men's legs? People would laugh; it would be considered absurd. An ad with women's legs is not absurd—it's alluring.

EOQ

Alluring to what, to the flesh through lewdness, and there are all kinds of them in our everyday life today that come in the form of advertising. To catch you with the allurements of lewdness and then somehow transfer that feeling to purchase their product. I actually had this conversation with one of the fathers in our church about controlling what our children watch, and we agreed that it was more often than not the uncontrollable commercials that were the problem and often more offensive than the actual show.

And what is the application of this, well Proverbs chapter 6 verse 20 begins by saying;

*My son, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother.*

And in verse 24 through 26 he gives the reason why;

*To keep you from the evil woman, From the flattering tongue of a seductress.*

*25 Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, Nor let her allure you with her eyelids.*

*26 For by means of a harlot A man is reduced to a crust of bread; And an adulteress will prey upon his precious life.*

The application is to walk away from such things, to look away and do not look twice or give in to such ways. Therein lies is the application for your heart, I'm sure none of us here are having troubles with getting caught up with another person outside of our marriage or other illegitimate relationships, but I know we all need to guard our own eyes these days when it comes to the things in our world, on our phones, and from what's on the internet. That we would be like Lot, in that these things would torment our soul from day to day when we see and hear of these lawless deeds, instead of being allured by them.

This is what we instilled in our own sons, the idea in not to look twice, and I remember one time we were walking in the mall with our sons Joshua and Jonah, when they were in their early teens. They were walking just in front of us, and as there often is in malls these days the lewd posters in some of the stores. And when we passed one, and it was Jonah who looked and then looked again, and not that he 'looked twice' it was more of a double take, you know the (do a double take) at which he was promptly punched in the shoulder by his older brother Josh saying 'it's a sin to look twice', to which Jonah responded with something like 'I wasn't looking twice, I was only seeing, to see if what I was seeing, was what I was really seeing'.

We are to guard our eyes, as Psalm 119 verse 37a says;

*Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things...*

And with all the advertising that is in our world, we need to guard our eyes, our minds from looking at worthless things, at lewd things. As I said it all starts somewhere, and not only billboards and signs, sometimes when it comes to the heat of summer, it is not only billboards and posters we need to be turning from but also how some people dress or rather, the lack of, during this time of year. I know we have no control over what other people where, but each of us has control over where we direct our eyeballs, even Jesus says if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out, and cast it from you, for it is better to enter life with one eye rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

Or how about when it comes to crude and rude off-color jokes in the work place or other group settings. How do you respond, do you chuckle along, hoping you don't look too out of place, or do you take a stand and comment that such talk is inappropriate, or even leave saying 'I don't need to be a part of such conversation'. It is in your control to participate or not.

And there would be other examples as well, passive lewdness is where the only control I have is that of myself and I must exercise discipline and self-control when it comes to the things the world is bombarding

us with. Be it of things in the world in advertising, or in the people we encounter that are around us that we must actively guard ourselves from the things of lewdness and to turn from them.

The other area I noted that I want to look into, is what I call active lewdness, the things we have full control over, not that I think anyone here has the problem of being the proverbs 7 man or woman, but look at the little things we allow and do ourselves. To make us aware of the little things of the bigger picture and guard our hearts from them.

Previously I talked about advertising, how it is that uncontrollable aspect of our world in the places we go and in the things we do. Now I want to look at things like entertainment, something we have full control over our life. And one of them is movies, what kind of movies or shows do you allow into your home, what is the content of those shows, what is all portrayed in those films?

We already know that almost all modern-day films and movies are filled with profanities, indecencies, immoralities, and of course lewdness; these are all portrayed and woven into the story lines to catch your attention with such alluring sins. And not only is it in the films for mature audiences, but we are finding them more and more in films designed for younger and younger children. The trend that is happening in our day is that there is a slow progression to more and

more of these kinds of things entering the movie industry and like I say, it's not just in the films for adults but it is also increasing in films for children and preteens. And my warning is what are you allowing into your life and mind in regard to movies, and not just your life but also your children? If you are honest with yourself and look at some of the messages and images projected in some of these movies, what is it suggesting?

I pray that we would be as Psalm 101 verse 3 says;

*I will set nothing wicked before my eyes...*

Another area of entertainment is music, with the question what are you listening to? What is the style of music you are listening to, what are the lyrics saying or promoting? What feeling is the music trying to get you to feel, what image is it trying to portray in your heart.

Remember we are not looking for that big obvious sin of lewdness in our lives, but of the small things that take us there. And it is not my job to point out every good and bad movie or song, my job is to equip you with the awareness of these things of lewdness, so that you then allow the Holy Spirit to work in your hearts, in recognizing this work of the flesh from the things of our lives before they grow and become evident to others. Because it always starts in small steps, a progression beginning with the smallest degrees of change or

compromise. It always begins in that chamber of the soul and what we allow in there.

And there are countless other forms of entertainment that we get ourselves into; video games, books, magazines and a whole host of others, and one of the things we need to be watchful for is the promotion or presentation of the works of the flesh, adultery, fornication, uncleanness and lewdness, these all hide behind or under the banner of entertainment. This is why Paul says in 1 Thessalonians chapter 5 verse 21 and 22;

*Test all things; hold fast what is good.*

*22 Abstain from every form of evil.*

Because if we are actively allowing the influence of these things into our lives it will begin to influence how we ourselves talk and act around others. Earlier I talked about being in the presence of off-colored jokes and talked about it in the passive sense, now I ask you, are you the source of such talk, in the active sense? What about your language in general, when you are at work, or with friends, is your speech filled with worldly words or is it as Paul commands us by saying;

*Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt,  
that you may know how you ought to answer each one.*

*Colossians 4:6*

I know I have talked about some of these before but when we look at all of these sins, these works of the flesh, these sins of physical immorality, they all start somewhere, and they usually start small, knit-picky as some may say, but it is always the little things that take us off the track to the bigger.

Earlier I talked about the clothing or the lack of clothing some people wear during the summer months in the passive sense, and now I ask you, what's all in your wardrobe, what is all in your closet that may push the line in some areas of lewdness? Are there articles of clothing that perhaps, just maybe, are in the direction of lewdness? Not implying outright lewdness, but be viewed as leading someone's eyes and mind in that direction? It is Paul who talks about the women adorning themselves in modest apparel with propriety and moderation.

How is your desire for fashion, is it to be cool, to have the 'in' clothing? To be closer to the edge of what is appropriate? What is your attire telling the world, what is it that you want them to think, what is it that you want them to see? Because what you see in your clothing may be entirely different from what someone else sees in your



clothing. And it is that active part in us that decides what we choose to put on to show off to the rest of the world.

And I'm not just talking to the ladies and wives, I'm also talking to the husbands and fathers out there, are you watching what all leaves the house? Does whatever leaves your front door pass your approval? For there is no one who will understand better in your family what the attire of your family will do to the minds of others in the world. Think, What do you want others to think of when they see your children, what do you want others to think of when they see your wife?

Now many people will say ‘pastor Darryl do you have a death wish for your ministry or something?’ ‘For there are three things that are the hottest issues when dealing with people, and they are what they watch, what they listen to, and what they wear. And you just addressed all three of them in the last 15 minutes.’

Well, I do have a death wish, and it would be the same one as Paul has in Romans 6:11 where he says;

*Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin,*

I wish that we would all be like Lot as we dwell in this world, that our soul would be tormented from day to day by seeing and hearing of the lawless, lewd, and unclean deeds done in the world, and to have the greatest desire not to be part of it. That we would truly be as Paul says that we would reckon ourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but also as the latter part of the verse says;

*but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Let us die to sin and be alive to God, let us see and take action of those little things of lewdness that start in the heart, and then deal with them, be it from what we watch, what we listen to, to what we ware, all of these can have those little beginnings of lewdness, that expression of discontentment which then can lead to things such as licentiousness and other vices, including wantonness and eventually leading to things of filth as in lewdness. In everything there is a process, in everything there is a progression, and it always starts small, in almost insignificant ways.

I don't want to be knit-picky, but there is a line somewhere and its better to catch it earlier than to trying to play catch-up and deal with it later.

And so, in conclusion, lewdness, when we see it in its full exposed unbridled shameless exposure in the world, it is disturbing, it is sin. It

is the expression or open display and promotion of the acts of uncleanness, fornication or adultery. Just as the immoral woman of proverbs chapter 7 was portraying lewdness to the young man, the simple one, the one devoid of understanding and drew him in, with the shameless allure of lewdness, drawing him into a sin that later says 'he did not know it would cost his life' and as Solomon concludes the chapter by saying;

*27 Her house is the way to hell, Descending to the chambers of death.*

As we have looked at this sin of lewdness, we know the extreme end of this work of the flesh it is very very obvious, but it is the smaller more subtle things within our own heart that we must be ever watchful of. We must guard ourselves so that we are not drawn into this lewdness of the world through the passive sense, nor be the active participant of it with the things of your life, your movies, your music, your speech or your clothing, and ask the Lord to show you any area of your life where this may need attention. To take a close look at what we allow into our homes as well as what we allow to walk out of our front door. Some of them may be done in innocence and ignorance but that is just where the devil would love to begin.

I don't want to be the monitor of your movie and music, I don't want to be the ward of your wardrobe, and I don't want to be the police of your own policies, but I pray that the Lord would grant us all wisdom and discretion in all of these areas, that we would all seek to walk before Him blameless, and spotless, and not be found shameless with lewdness.

Paul says in Colossians 4 verse 4;

*Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt,  
that you may know how you ought to answer each one.*

and if I could add to that, I would say not only your speech, but your actions, your attire, your choices in life, all be with grace and seasoned with salt, so that we would know how we ought to conduct ourselves with each other in the church and with those in the world. and that we would be as Paul says in Titus 2:12

*teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we  
should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present  
age,*

as I said in beginning of this series, be in the word, be in prayer, walk in faith and if there is something that is keeping the peace of God from you, that the peace of GOD is somehow lacking or illusive,

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then read, pray, walk in faith and repeat, and keep your heart open to what God may be trying to tell you from his word.

Well may the Lord grant us wisdom and discernment in this day and age we are living in.