

## Walk In God's Love

### Ephesians 5:1-14

April 23, 2023

Review

Why “therefore” – look at the previous verses from Chapter 14!

Paul gave the Church in Ephesus some pretty clear guidance/instructions and the same applies for us today!

#### Imitate God, walk in love (vs. 1-2)

So what is love?

God's Word tells us that God is love:

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **1 John 4:7-11***

So if God is love, all of His characteristics are a part of that love!

We are God's child, bought with a price, we are to walk in His love.

#### Living IN sin vs. I SIN (vs. 3-7)

This is living in sin with no regard for conviction or what we have done vs. I sinned and convicted, confessing it and dying to ourselves.

*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup> Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? <sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup> For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. <sup>7</sup> For he who has died has been freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, <sup>9</sup> knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. <sup>10</sup> For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. <sup>11</sup> Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. <sup>13</sup> And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God*

*as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. **Romans 6:1-14***

If we LIVE in sin, we in face may be “professors” but not “possessors.”

Paul gives us examples of sin, that which Ephesus was having issues with, to help us understand and look at ourselves.

Fornication (we get this word from the Greek word porneia, sexual sin).

Covetousness

Filthy talk, foolish talking, jesting

Set apart, called out ones

Two indicators of a person’s character, what makes him laugh and what makes him weep.

Not innocent humor, but senseless conversation that cheapens the man and does not edify or minister grace to the hearers. ~ **Warren Wiersbe**

Jesting – turning the talk easily

### **Walk in light and shine the Light (vs. 8-14)**

We were once in darkness, but no longer in darkness, so we are to shine the Light. Our light shining will expose the darkness.

*“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.” **John 3:18-21***

*“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. <sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Matthew 5:14-16***

### **Prayer Focus:**

- **Am I walking in love? Have I received that love?**
- **Am I LIVING in sin?**
- **Am I shining God’s light?**