

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

EPHESIANS: Awake, O Sleeper - Ephesians 5:1-14 - From Darkness Into Christ's Light - 04.21.2024

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. As you look at your life, can you point to times where you've imitated or been imitated by somebody (in good or bad ways)?
What factors led to you to imitating them or them to imitating you?
(i.e. were there desirable characteristics worthy of imitation or was it just a result of frequent proximity to each other, etc.)
What are the potential benefits and pitfalls of imitating others in your life?
3. In Ephesians 5:1-2, we see the call to be imitators of God as beloved children & to live out of love as Christ has done for us.
Based on this particular passage, WHY are we supposed to imitate God as His children whom He loves?
How does verse 2 relate to verse 1, and how does this pertain to HOW we are able to imitate God?
***Consider Romans 12:1 - what is our reasonable response to the mercies of the Lord unto us?*
How does the consistent call of Jesus' disciples relate to what's written here (consider Jesus' words in Luke 9:23-24)?
In light of all of this, what are areas in your life where you find yourself struggling to live out of this clear call as God's child?
Take time to confess this and pray for the Lord to equip & strengthen you by the Holy Spirit to grow in this manner.
4. Much of the time in verses 3-14 are spent on the ways of darkness vs the way of light in Christ.
As you look at this, are there areas in which, though you've been brought into Christ's light, you still operate out of darkness?
How does this list reveal the Enemy's deceptive ways & society's counterfeit for love?
How does the love of God in Christ fly in the face of the ways of this world & its pursuits (& its redefinition of "love")
As you consider your life (words, thoughts, attitudes, & actions) - are you living out of Christ's light?
What can you do to more consistently dwell upon & live out of the light of Christ instead of this world's darkness?
5. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
We will inevitably imitate whomever we follow!
As God's children, we will imitate & reflect Him!
God's children walk in the sacrificial love of Christ!
We live sacrificial lives for others to glorify God!
Light shines & exposes darkness for what it is!
Lust is selfish; love is selfless. In Jesus, we love!
Darkness is what we WERE, not who we ARE!
God has forgiven us & brought us into His light!
LET'S WAKE UP AND LIVE IN CHRIST'S LIGHT!