

**Morning Session**

**Text: Ephesians 5**

**Title: "Be Imitators of God"**

**A. THE CALL TO BE IMITATORS OF GOD**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

<sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Ephesians 5:1-2

1. God is our Father in Heaven
2. We are His children (adoption)
3. We are to Imitate God
4. The challenge: To walk in Love
  - a) As the Lord has loved us
  - b) Proven by the fact that He gave Himself for us
  - c) He was an offering to God
  - d) A sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma

**B. BEWARE OF DECEIVERS**

<sup>3</sup> But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;

<sup>4</sup> neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

<sup>5</sup> For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

<sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partakers with them.

Ephesians 5:3-7

1. Deceivers can exert deadly influence
2. They encourage immoral activities
3. They practise living a frivolous life
4. They deceive people with empty words
5. They will have to face the wrath of God one day

### **C. REMEMBERING THE PAST**

<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

<sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),

<sup>10</sup> finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

<sup>11</sup> And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*.

<sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

<sup>13</sup> But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep,  
Arise from the dead,  
And Christ will give you light.”

Ephesians 5:8-14

#### **1. In the Past, Darkness was Pervasive**

- a) Unfruitful works of darkness
- b) Shameful activities
- c) Asleep – Dead

#### **2. The Present Life, Light Prevails**

- a) Light in the Lord
- b) Walk as children of light
- c) Bear the fruit of the Spirit

- i) In all goodness
- ii) In righteousness
- iii) And truth
  
- d) Finding what is acceptable to the Lord
- e) No fellowship with those who walk in darkness
- f) All things made manifest in the light
- g) Awake!
- h) The Lord will give Light

#### **D. A DYNAMIC CHRISTIAN LIFE**

<sup>15</sup> See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

<sup>16</sup> redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*.

<sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

<sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

<sup>20</sup> giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

<sup>21</sup> submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Ephesians 5:15-21

1. Walking Wisely
2. Redeeming the time
3. Understand the will of the Lord
4. Be filled with the Holy Spirit
5. Making melody in the heart to the Lord
6. Giving thanks to God always
7. Practise mutual submission

## **APPROPRIATE RESPONSE**

1. Choose a Dynamic Christian Lifestyle
2. Cultivate Faith and Life
3. Contribute to the Growth of the Church