

the TAKE HOME 08.02.15

Today's Scripture Passage: Ephesians 5:1-21

P 829 Pew Bible

1 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children **2** and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. **3** But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. **4** Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. **5** For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person--such a man is an idolater--has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. **6** Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. **7** Therefore do not be partners with them. **8** For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light **9** (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) **10** and find out what pleases the Lord. **11** Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. **12** For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. **13** But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, **14** for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." **15** Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, **16** making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. **18** Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. **19** Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, **20** always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **21** Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

- Which dead-end, side path do you struggle w/ most? Sexual immorality, impure speech, greed?
- What are you doing to stay off these paths?
- When it comes to sex, speech and greed, how might you learn to express your gratitude to God instead following the wrong path?
- Where is God calling you to expose the darkness with the light of Christ?
- For walking in wisdom, which statement speaks to you most?
 - Be careful how you live
 - Making the most of every opportunity
 - Understand what the Lord's will is
 - Be filled with the Spirit

Bible Challenge:

- Memorize Series Verse: Ephesians 3:21
- Read, study, or listen to Ephesians 5:21-33