## Ephesians Chapter 5:1-21 Week 7 – Ephesians MidWeek Bible Study 17 January 2024

"The man who is asleep does not care what becomes of his neighbors; how can he while he is asleep? And oh! Some of you Christians do not care whether souls are saved or damned... It is enough for them if they are comfortable. If they can attend a respectable place of worship and go with others to heaven, they are indifferent about everything else." - Spurgeon

#### **GROUP GATHERING (~10minutes)**

- 1. Read Ephesians 5:1-21 together (allow multiple people to read)
- 2. Discuss what you notice, what verses or words stand out to you, what connections you see being made.
- 3. What questions or confusion do you have that you hope to learn tonight?

#### **Inductive Bible Study Review**

<b>STEP</b>	1:	OBS	<b>ERVE</b>
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### "What does it say?"

Ask good questions, make observations, pray "to notice"

#### **STEP 2: INTERPRET**

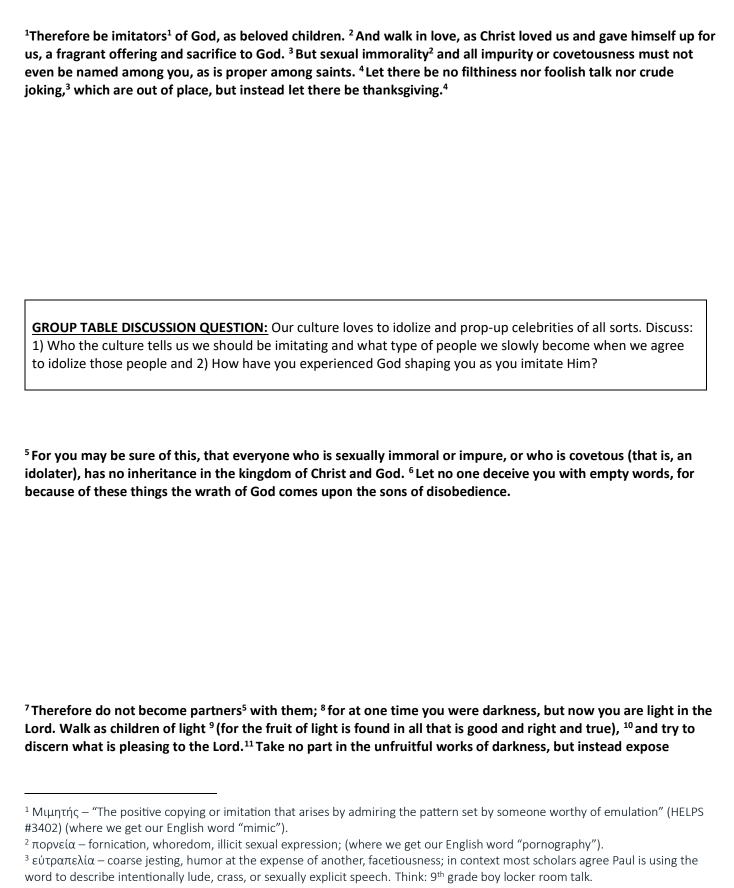
#### "What did it mean?"

What did Paul mean to write to these Ephesians? How did they understand it? What did Paul mean?

# STEP 3: APPLY "What does it mean?"

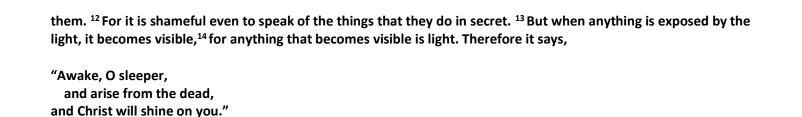
What do these chunks of Scripture have to say to us? How will we live differently because of their messages?

Reminders / Context



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Pastor and commentator David Guzik writes on this passage that "we do not avoid these things in order to achieve sainthood, but we are already declared saints by the blood of Jesus, these prohibitions are to help us act accordingly!"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> συμμέτοχος – partaking with or jointly venturing alongside; describes a close, mutually beneficial relationship often used between business partners.



**GROUP TABLE DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Share from your own life: In what way(s) have you walked in darkness until God exposed those things with his light? Why is it sometimes very difficult to recognize darkness while you're walking in it?

<sup>15</sup> Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not get drunk with wine, <sup>6</sup> for that is debauchery, <sup>7</sup> but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> submitting to one another out of reverence <sup>8</sup> for Christ.

<u>GROUP TABLE DISCUSSION:</u> How will you pursue "walking in the light" this week? How can your group pray for you to do exactly that? Pray together before dismissing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Roman god Bacchus (Greek "Dionysus") was the god of "wine & vine" and represented the ultimate ancient hedonism, with many participating in cultic worship through drunkenness, practices to lead to intentional psychological distress/frenzy, orgies, etc. Many scholars believe that Paul is addressing these very common practice through Ephesians.

 $<sup>^{7}</sup>$  άσωτία – wastefulness, wantonness, excessive behavior leading to serious consequences; "an abandoned man, one that cannot be saved because he has ultimately abandoned his own life and responsibilities and intentionally taken on the character of a prodigal" (Thayer's Greek Lexicon, Strong's #810).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Φόβος – rightly placed fear, reverence, respect