

Instructions to Help Christians  
Live Changed Lives

**Ephesians 5:1-21**

Ephesians 5:1-7

“**Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.** 2 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. 3 But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; 4 neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. 5 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. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them.

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- ◇ Remember whose child you are
- ◇ You are in a precious new relationship
- ◇ Follow your new Father. Sons want to imitate their father

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◇ Walk in love

◇ Love for God our Father, for Christ our Savior, for the truth, and for others

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- ◇ Recognize the seriousness of continuing in sin and thus the need to change
- ◇ Some men will tell you differently
- ◇ Must not excuse
- ◇ Serious because: not fitting; we are holy ones; consequence of losing inheritance

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- ◇ Don't be a partaker with sinners anymore
- ◇ Part company with those who will influence you to keep doing the same things

Ephesians 5:8-10

“**For you were once darkness**, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.”

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- ◇ Don't forget what you once were
- ◇ But why?
  - ◇ I don't want to be that any longer!
  - ◇ I abhor that!
  - ◇ What fruit did I have in that?
  - ◇ Greater appreciation that I was cleansed from that

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◇ Desire to be light

◇ Live like a child of light

Ephesians 5:8-10

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- ◇ Be devoted to producing in your life the fruit of the Spirit
- ◇ You are not passive in this
- ◇ Goodness
- ◇ Righteousness
- ◇ Truth
- ◇ Cannot just be concerned with putting off old, but must endeavor to bear new fruit

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- ◇ Recognize and appreciate the value and blessing of walking as children of light
- ◇ Proving, confirming, establishing to self and to others

## Instructions to Help Christians Live Changed Lives

- ◇ Remember whose child you are
- ◇ Walk in love, a great motivator
- ◇ Recognize the seriousness of sin and thus the need to change
- ◇ Don't partake with sinners anymore
- ◇ Don't forget what you once were
- ◇ Desire to be light
- ◇ Then live like a child of light
- ◇ Be devoted to producing in your life the fruit of the Spirit
- ◇ Recognize and appreciate the value and blessing of being a child of light