



## Ephesians Lesson 6, Eph 5:1-21

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### Outline of Ephesians:

- **Chapters 1-3:** Doctrines of the church = doctrinal instruction: Who God is and how I fit into His plan.
- **Chapters 4-6:** Duties of the church = practical instruction: How I live my everyday life in relationship with God.

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### “Sit” ... “Walk”... “Stand”

- **Ephesians 1-3 Sit** = our position in Christ
- **Eph 2:4-6** “But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us...made us alive together with Christ...and raised us up with Him, and **seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.**”

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### “Sit” ... “Walk”... “Stand”

- **Ephesians 1-3 Sit** = our position in Christ
- **Ephesians 4:1-6:9 Walk** = how we conduct our lives
  - **4:1** “walk in a manner **worthy** of [your] calling...”
  - **4:17** “walk no longer as the **Gentiles** also walk...”
  - **5:2** “walk in love, just as Christ also loved you...”
  - **5:8** “walk as children of **Light**”
  - **5:15** “be careful how you walk, not as unwise....”

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“Sit” ... “Walk” ... “Stand”

- **Ephesians 1-3 Sit** = our position in Christ
- **Ephesians 4:1-6:9 Walk** = how we conduct our lives as believers
- **Ephesians 6:10-24: Stand** = our defense against the Evil One
  - **Ephesians 6:11, 13-14** “...*stand firm* against the schemes of the devil....Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything to *stand firm. Stand firm*, therefore....”

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Ephesians 5:1 “be imitators of God

- MIMETES = mimic; follow
- 4:32 “forgive...just as God in Christ has forgiven you.”  
→ **forgive as He forgave**
- 5:2 “walk in love...’  
PERIPATEO = your walk in life, your lifestyle.
- “walk in love, just as Christ also loved you”  
→ **love as He loved**

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Eph.5:3 “must not even be named among you”:

- Immorality
- Impurity
- Greed
- 4:19 Sensuality; Impurity; Greediness
- 5:5 Immoral; Impure; Covetous

The serious consequences of these sins:

*“no immoral or impure...or covetous...has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.”*

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Eph.5:3 “must not even be named among you”:

- Immorality = PORNEIA → refers to all types of sexual sin.
- Impurity = AKATHARSIA → more general term for anything unclean or filthy.
- Greed = inseparable from impurity (cp 4:19); wanting more than God has ordained for you to have in any area.

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Eph.5:3 “must not even be named among you”:

- Filthiness: obscenity = either indecent, improper, or offensive *actions* or *speech*.
- Silly or Foolish talk = MOROLOGIA → refers not to intelligence, but to morals
- Coarse jesting = words with a double meaning; turning anything into something suggestive.

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Eph.5:3 “must not even be named among you”:

These are *diagnostic sins*; if immorality or impurity or covetousness characterizes a person’s life, these things are inconsistent with being a child of God. A Christian may “fall into” these sins, but he won’t stay there!

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Eph. 5:6 “let no one deceive you with empty words...”

- **Matthew 7:21-23** “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘*I never knew you*; leave Me, you who practice lawlessness.’”

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Eph. 5:6 “let no one deceive you with empty words...”

- II Cor 13:5 “*Examine yourselves* to see if you are in the faith”
- Gal 5:22-23 = “fruit of the Spirit” = that which will characterize a true believer
- Gal 5:19-21 “Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry...just as I have forewarned you, that *those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*”

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Eph. 5:6 “let no one deceive you with empty words...”

- I Cor 6:9-11 “...the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God. Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. *Such were some of you; but you were washed...sanctified...justified....*”

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Eph. 5:6 “the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience” (cp 2:3 “children of wrath”)

- John 3:36 “He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

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Eph 5:8b “but now you are Light in the Lord...  
walk as children of Light”

- In scripture, light is used in two aspects:
  - Light represents the truth of the gospel (II Cor 4:4);
  - Light represents holiness (Rom 13:12).
  - They not only were *called to the Light*; they were *called to be Light*.

Mt 5:14,16 Jesus said, “You are the light of the world....Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

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Eph 5:9 “the fruit of Light”

- Gal 5:22-23 “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...”.
- Gal 5:24-25 “Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.”

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## Eph 5:11 “the unfruitful deeds...expose them”

- Jn 3:19-20 “...the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the LIGHT, and *does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.*”

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## Eph 5:15-16 “Therefore, be careful how you walk...”

- “not as unwise, but as wise” - a wise person acts on the knowledge he has received.
  - “making the most of your time”
    - CHRONOS = clock time
    - KAIROS = a measured, allocated, fixed season
  - “making the most of your time (KAIROS), because the days are evil” –an awareness that the Lord is coming soon.
- “God has set boundaries to our lives, and our opportunity for service exists only within those boundaries.”*

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## Eph 5:17 “understand what the will of the Lord is”

- I Thes 4:3 “For *this is the will of God...* that you abstain from sexual immorality...”
- I Thes 5:18 “In everything give thanks; for *this is God’s will* for you...”
- I Pet 2:15 “For *such is the will of God* that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.”
- II Pet 3:9 “*The Lord is not slack* concerning His promise...*not willing* that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

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## Eph 5:18 “be filled with the Holy Spirit”

- “be filled” present passive imperative of PLEROO
  - Present tense = ongoing (continuous) action
  - Passive = done by Someone else
  - Imperative = a command
  - Literally: “be being kept filled.”

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“being filled with the Spirit” = two uses in Scripture:

• **Empowered for a specific purpose:**

- Lk 1:15 John the Baptist was “filled” in his mother’s womb to confirm the message to Elisabeth & Mary (Lk 1:44 “the baby leaped in my womb”)
- Lk 1:67 “And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied...”
- Num 24:2 Balaam (the reluctant prophet) had to prophesy a blessing on Israel when “the Spirit of God came upon him.”

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“being filled with the Spirit” = two uses in Scripture:

- **Empowered for a specific purpose**
- **Living a lifestyle of being controlled by the Spirit;**
  - Acts 6:3 It is a qualification listed for the first deacons;
  - Eph 5:18 It is a lifestyle, not an experience.

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Eph 5:19-21 Evidence of “being filled with the Spirit”:

- Their speech with others will be uplifting and spiritual; v.19
- They will enjoy singing with other believers; v.19
  - Psalms = OT psalms put to music
  - Hymns = songs of praise
  - Spiritual songs = songs of testimony
- There will be a melody in their hearts to the Lord; v.19
- They will be characterized by a spirit of thankfulness to the Lord; v.20 “always...all things”
- They will submit their wills for the good of others; v.21
- The fruit of the Spirit will be evident in their lives, Gal 5:22-23

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Lessons from Eph 5:1-21:

1. There should be a difference in our walk (lifestyle) from that of when we were unbelievers.
2. Be careful of both your speech and what you allow in your home as entertainment.
3. Don’t let unbelievers fool you into thinking they are believers. Be a fruit inspector.
4. Continue to learn what is pleasing to the Lord (and practice doing it).
5. Our time to serve the Lord is limited. We should make the most of every opportunity.

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