



Connection Group Participant Guide September 6, 2020

Ephesians 5

Key Principles

- The sacrifice of Jesus, and the love-debt we owe Him, motivates us to live a life dedicated to increasing holiness.
- Paul provides a summary of concerns which we are to avoid, for example, “sexual immorality, impurity of any kind, greed, vulgar speech, foolish talk, crude joking.”
- Our lives are to be marked by clear thinking, good stewardship, and sober living.
- Paul speaks of the relationship between Christ and the church. Using marriage as an illustration, the text is primarily about the responsibilities of the husband—whose role model must be Christ.

Highlight

The motivation for Christians to be imitators of God is that Christ _____ and gave Himself _____ (vv. 1-2).

Explain

Paul declares that *a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife* (v. 31). What does “hold fast” mean in this context and how does that command speak to today’s generation?

Apply

Paul is very adamant about Christians not following those who live in darkness, but instead to be the light that is in the Lord. Who do you find leading you into lifestyles, habits, or behaviors that are contrary to your calling to be the light?

Respond in Prayer

Read through Psalm 1 and listen with your heart to what it has to say. We recommend praying through this proverb on your own at home and together with your Connection Group.

- **Adoration:** Give God praise for the things that you see in Psalm 1.
- **Confession:** Talk with God about your struggles to be His imitator in this world.
- **Thanksgiving:** Thank God for His perfect design for marriages.
- **Supplication:** Ask God to help you to live and keep His Word.