

## Bible Study, Session 7

Ephesians 5:1 – 5:21

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1. Verse 1
  - a. The Greek word for 'follower' in this verse actually means 'imitator'. Who is to be imitated and what does that, according to Gill, look like?
  - b. Why, in daily life, do children want to imitate their father? How does this compare to spiritual life?
2. Verse 2
  - a. According to Gill, why should the Ephesians (or: God's children) love Christ?
  - b. Gill considers love to God an 'evidence of regeneration.' Explain this, while keeping in mind that children – if all is well – love their father.
  - c. Imagine someone giving his life for someone else. What does this say about the relationship between those two?
3. Verse 3
  - a. Google the difference between fornication and adultery. What word(s) would we currently use for fornication?
  - b. According to Gill, why does Paul explicitly mention sexual sins here?
  - c. According to Gill, how is 'uncleanness' different from 'fornication'?
4. Verse 4
  - a. What could be the reasons that we, especially when young, are so inclined to use 'filthy talk'?
  - b. Jestering is something like 'joking'. Is it wrong to make 'funny comments'? Is it edifying to make 'funny comments'?
  - c. According to Gill, what kind of jestering or joking is Paul referring to?
5. Verse 5
  - a. According to Gill, how can an idolater be the same as a covetous person?
  - b. In which two ways can the words 'kingdom of Christ' be explained? How would you describe the first one that Gill mentions?
  - c. Does this verse imply that everyone who commits these sins will never go to heaven? Explain your answer.
6. Verse 6
  - a. According to Gill, what kind of deceit is Paul referring to here?
  - b. Paul states that, because of the sins mentioned, God's wrath comes upon on the 'children of disobedience.' Does this imply that God's own children will not experience God's wrath when committing those sins?
7. Verse 7
  - a. Gill refers to "keeping needless company" as an example of being a partaker of sins. Give at least two examples of "needlessly accompanying" those who can make us sin, and how we can avoid this.
8. Verse 8
  - a. According to Gill, what happens when the 'eyes of understanding' are enlightened?
  - b. What does it mean to walk 'as children of light'?

- c. Read Matthew 5:14. How were the apostles a light themselves?
9. Verse 9
  - a. According to Gill, goodness (sympathizing), righteousness (obedience), and truth are indications of God's work in the sinner. However, others can show this as well to a certain extent. How can we discern this from just having an outward appearance?
10. Verse 10
  - a. Which three criteria does Gill give for the works of man to be acceptable in God's eyes?
11. Verse 11
  - a. What reasons does Gill give to allow 'fellowship with the *workers* of darkness'?
  - b. According to Gill, which two ways are to be used to reprove them?
  - c. What could be the reason that not everyone is qualified to verbally reprove sins?
12. Verse 12
  - a. According to Henry, why would it be a shame to mention certain sins?
  - b. Matthew Henry says about this verse that, "a good man is ashamed to speak that which many wicked people are not ashamed to act." Can you give an example of this?
13. Verse 13
  - a. According to Gill, 'the saints' can 'detect and reprove the sins of others'. What is the reason that God's people are more sensitive to sins (both in themselves and others) than the unconverted?
  - b. In the last words of this verse, Paul states that light is needed to reveal the darkness. How is this true in the lives of God's people?
14. Verse 14
  - a. According to Gill, to whom are the words of this verse spoken and what is his argument for his viewpoint?
  - b. According to Gill, how can God's people expect more ('fresh') light from Christ?
15. Verse 15
  - a. What does the word circumspect mean, especially in the context of this verse?
  - b. According to Gill, what does it mean to walk as a 'wise' person and what will the outcome of that?
16. Verse 16
  - a. What does it mean to 'redeem the time'?
  - b. Why is 'redeeming the time' so difficult and what are our main distractors or time wasters?
17. Verse 17
  - a. Which two 'wills of God' does Gill mention?
  - b. How is the will of God to be done (by humans) and what is necessary to do this?
18. Verse 18
  - a. Gill mentions that drinking wine is allowed for 'honest delight and lawful pleasure'. What could he mean with this? In your answer refer to Ecclesiastes 9:7.
  - b. Why is being filled with God's Spirit contrasted to or compared with wine?
19. Verse 19
  - a. According to Gill, what do the 'hymns' and the 'spiritual songs' refer to?
  - b. How does Gill define 'singing with, or from the heart' and what is the purpose of it?
20. Verse 20

- a. Gill lists a number of things to be thankful for. Why is it so difficult to be thankful?
  - b. What could or should we do to be more thankful?
  - c. According to Gill, why does Paul add the words “in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”?
21. Verse 21
- a. According to Gill, in what three ‘senses’ are we called to submit to others?
  - b. To what extent are we to obey those in authority over us and how does this connect with our obligation to study Scripture?
22. General: What stood out for you when studying these verses?