

# Ephesians 5:1-21 The Imitated Life

Life Greoups Sermon Based Stady

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## Easy warm-up questions (choose one)

- 1. If you could gain one skill/ability that someone else has (that you do not have), what would it be?
- 2. If you could hang out with anyone from your family (not living), who would it be?

#### Be Imitators of God 5:1

- 1. It is impossible to imitate God. AGREE WAFFLE DISAGREE
- How is it helpful for you to know you are a "beloved" child?

#### Imitation of God in "real time" 5:2-21

## Live in Love 5:2-6

- 1. What does Paul mean by "walk in love"? (i.e. "live in love")
- 2. When we "walk in love," how does this imitate God?
- 3. How can we avoid becoming a cheap imitation of God's love?
- 4. Teaching about walking in love, what does Paul warn against? Why?
- 5. These days, how are you doing at walking in love?

# Live in Light 5:7-14

- 1. According to Paul, what does it mean to "walk as children of light"? (i.e. live in light)
- 2. When we "walk as children of light," how does this imitate God?
- 3. How can we avoid becoming a cheap imitation of God's light?
- 4. Teaching about walking in light, what does Paul warn against? Why?
- 5. These days, how are you doing at walking as a child of light?

## Live in Wisdom 5:15-18

- 1. What does Paul mean by "walk, not as unwise but as wise"?
- 2. When we walk in wisdom, how does this imitate God?
- 3. Consider Paul's instructions in verses 17 and 18. How can we be sure that we are living by God's wisdom and not our own?
- 4. These days, on a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being "unwise" and 10 being "wise) what numeric value would you give to how you are living? What would it take to move you one digit to towards a 10?

#### The Outcome of All That 5:19-21

- 1. How does Paul describe the results of living in imitation of God?
- 2. Why do you think that these outcomes are experiences that we share as the Church?

## Processing all that...

Paul repeatedly warns us to recognize the danger of imitating the world and to reject that course of life direction. Proactively, Paul repeatedly urges us to imitate God. With that teaching in mind, consider Jeremiah 17:9,10.

- 1. How can we know if we are actually imitating God or if we are just doing our own version of what it means to imitate God?
- 2. How crucial is it that we help each other to imitate God? As individuals? As Creekside? As a testimony to the world?