

Where Ya Headed? Ephesians 5:1-20

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July 5-6, 2014

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. Ephesians 5:1 (English Standard Version)*

The Two Sides of Imitation: 1) copy someone's behavior
2) follow the person's example

The Big Picture: Make sure that your Christian journey is taking you toward your destination of becoming like God.

I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you.
John 13:15 (New Living Translation)

IMITATE GOD BY WALKING IN LOVE.

And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2 (ESV)

*(See also 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 3:2; Titus 2:12; 2 Peter 1:6-7)

IMITATE GOD BY WALKING IN SEXUAL PURITY.

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not become partners with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Ephesians 5:3-10 (ESV)

Sexual purity = saying “no” to any sexual activity or behavior outside of marriage

Prefrontal cortex = reasoning brain

Limbic system = emotional brain

IMITATE GOD BY WALKING CAREFULLY.

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:15-20 (ESV)