

Dig Deeper @Home – “Living in Faithful Community”
Complement to sermon on 11/18/2018 – “The Proper Walk”

ICE BREAKER – ask these to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What’s your favorite form of exercise?
2. Who is someone you wanted to be like when you were growing up?

MEMORIZE – Ephesians 4: 15-16

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every point with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

READ – Read Ephesians 5:1-21

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does this passage reveal about God? About humanity?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life?
3. In verse 2 the terms “fragrant offering” or “aroma” and “sacrifice” refer to sacrifices and offerings the Jews offered. Read Genesis 8:21 and Leviticus 1:4, 13, and 17. What do you learn about these offerings? Now read Hebrews 7:27; 9:11-14 and 10:10, 12. Explain how Jesus Christ fulfills these sacrifices and offerings.
4. In verse 11 what are we to do with the “fruitless or unfruitful works of darkness”? Why according to verse 12? Verses 3-8 present deeds of darkness in contrast to verse 9 which presents fruit of light. Why do you think it is shameful to speak of these deeds of darkness? From verses 13 and 14 what is made visible by the light? Read John 3:19-21 and write what Jesus taught about light and darkness.
5. According to verses 15 and 16, what is involved in “being careful, then, how you live or walk”? Why should we be careful (see verse 16)? According to verse 17, instead of being foolish, what should we do? In verse 18, what should we not do, and what should we do instead?

Summarize Ephesians 5:1-20 in your own words:

Experiential: Lighting the Dark

At night time, have someone hide a “prize” in a dark room of your house. Then take turns entering the dark room try to find the “prize” without any light in the room. If they fail to find the “prize”, give them a flashlight to search for the “prize” until they find it. Take turns hiding the “prize” and having people search for it in the dark. Afterwards talk about the difference having the light made to the search. How does this relate to having the light of Jesus shining in our lives.

Testimony Time

As you have been walking with the Lord, share about a time when you were able to discern and understand the will of the Lord for your life. What helped you to see the Light?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

O God you are my God (Step by Step)- www.metrolyrics.com/step-by-stepforever-we-will-sing-lyrics-michael-w-smith.html

Sing praise to the God who loves us and praise him for his faithfulness. He invites us to walk with Him and follow him all throughout our lives.

When we walk with the Lord – Mennonite Hymnal #577

God’s word is the light that lightens our path. Trust him and obey him as we walk this journey of life.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Lord Jesus, you came to bring light into the darkness of this sinful world. By your life we see light and by your loving sacrifice and death on the cross we can by faith experience life. Help us to be wise and discerning and to make the best use of our time as we strive to be light in the darkness and to live for you. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.