



Sermon Series: Ephesians: Together in Christ
Text: Ephesians 5:1-20
Delivered: October 15th, 2023
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Imitating God Together

Big Idea: To imitate God is both a serious responsibility and joyful privilege.

We are called to imitate God by walking in _____ (vs. 2)

1. Jesus' _____ of love is meant to be our _____. (1 John 3:16)
2. Jesus' _____ of love is meant to be our _____.
3. Jesus' love for _____ is meant to be our _____.

We are called to imitate God by walking in the _____. (vs. 3-14; 1 John 1:5)

1. See _____ how God sees it.
2. See _____ how God sees it.
3. _____ sin as an act of _____. (Hebrews 12:6)

“Church discipline is the process of correcting sin in the life of the congregation and its members. Church discipline typically starts privately and informally, growing to include the whole church only when necessary. In its final, formal, and public stage, church discipline involves removing someone from membership in the church and participation in the Lord’s Table.” -Jonathan Leeman

“Typically, this means starting with questions, not accusations, in order to make sure you understand correctly. All this is not just the pastor’s job but every member’s job. When you and the other members of your church live this way, the vast majority of discipline in a church will never travel beyond two or three other people.” -Jonathan Leeman

We are called to imitate God by walking in _____ on the Holy Spirit. (vs. 15-20)

1. The Holy Spirit gives us _____ for living a godly life.
2. The Holy Spirit gives us _____ for living a godly life.
3. Seek to be _____ with the Spirit! (Luke 11:13)

What are some of the things we might regularly be called to sacrifice to love other people (give specific examples from your life)? What things are most difficult for you to sacrifice and give up to love other people?

Why does the motive or aim in our love matter? What might be some other motives we have in loving other people that are not pleasing to God?

What are some of the reasons that Jesus’ love for us can become ordinary, taken for granted, or boring? What effect does that have on our own love? How can we fight back against this tendency?

How have you seen someone else in your life imitate God in the way that they love other people? Are there ways you have then sought to imitate them as a result?



What are some of the reasons we might not see sin how God sees it? Why is it important for us to see sin from God's vantage point?

What are some reasons we might see holiness as either boring or miserable rather than exciting and joyful?

What does it look like for Christians to expose sin as an act of love with unbelievers/those outside the church? (Think both of what this shouldn't involve and what it should involve)

When you hear the words "church discipline" what do you think of? How did the sermon either confirm, challenge, or change your view on this? Do you agree that church discipline is the job of every church member? Why or why not?

If we need the Holy Spirit to give us the wisdom and power to live a godly life what impact should that have on our day-to-day lives? Beyond prayer, are there other ways we can seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit? (Look at Colossians 3:16 in comparison with Ephesians 5:18-20)

Further Resources

- [How to Be Filled with the Spirit – Desiring God](#)
- [Church Discipline – Jonathan Leeman](#)