

Living as Light Ephesians 5: 1-14

Against the backdrop of darkness:

- For once you were full of darkness (8)
- The worthless deeds of evil and darkness (11)
- Sexual immorality, impurity, and greed (3)
- Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes (4)

Paul's gives 5 imperatives:

- Imitate God (1)
- Live a life filled with love (2)
- Be thankful to God (4)
- Live as people of light (7)
- Determine what pleases the Lord (10)

Discussion Point: We considered one of those - "Live as people of light". Consider the other 4 imperatives. What do they mean? How can we achieve them?

Living as Light

- God created Light - Genesis 1: 1-3
- Jesus is Light - Isaiah 9:2; John 8:12
- We are light - 2 Corinthians 4:6

Discussion Point: If we are to shine like a light bulb in the darkness how can we ensure that we keep connected to the power source of God? What works best for you? How can we encourage one another?

- "It is better to light a single candle than to curse the darkness"
- John F Kennedy - "We are not here to curse the darkness, but to light a candle that can guide us through the darkness."
- William Shakespeare (The Merchant of Venice - Portia) "How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world."
- Francis of Assisi - All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle

Discussion Point: Think of other examples in your own experience of how a single candle has dispelled the darkness