

Monday, 14 September 2015

*Ephesians 5:1*

*Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.*

Did you have a sports figure or movie actor or... that you followed avidly as a teen? Adopted that individual's dress, mannerisms, and interests as your own? Were you absorbed, devoted, determined to learn everything you could about your hero?

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children."

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Tuesday, 15 September 2015

*Ephesians 5:2*

*And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

Imitation #1: Walk in love, sacrificing self, taking up my cross and following Christ.

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Wednesday, 16 September 2015

*Ephesians 5:3*

*But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.*

Imitation #2: Put off all manner of improper, un-Godly behavior. I think Paul's telling me that I need to be scrupulous to avoid even a hint of worldly behavior, in no way conducting myself in a way that might be interpreted as improper.

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Thursday, 17 September 2015

*Ephesians 5:4*

*Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.*

Imitation #3: This should be in stark contrast to the conversations that go on around me. Not only filthiness, foolish chatter, or crude joking, but no gossip, no complaining, no slander, no attacking the reputation of another, no ... The list goes on and on but replaced by a very short list--I must be known as a man of thanksgiving, a man of praise, man of honesty, a man his word.

Beloved Holy Spirit--continue to work on me to bring me step by step into the image of my Lord Jesus Christ.

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Friday, 18 September 2015

*Ephesians 5:5*

*For 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.*

This is serious stuff. If I continue in my worldly ways (see Imitations #1-3, previously) and continue to find ways to excuse them, what part can I expect in the Kingdom of Heaven? I'm sitting here thinking about how out of place I would be there as an unrepentant sinner. I would know that Hell was the only place for me.

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Saturday, 19 September 2015

*Ephesians 5:6-7*

*Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them;*

Imitation #4: There is a place for shrewdness, for discernment, for the wisdom to recognize the empty promises of the world. Recognize the purveyors of deception and do not become indebted to such a one

in any manner.

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*Lord's Day, 20 September 2015*

*Psalm 119:57*

*The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep your words.*

A plain simple statement; one which is consistent as a response to God's statement of His covenant, "I will be your God and you will be My people." My response is, "I will keep Your Word and You will be my portion." No room for compromise, strictly A=B, cause and effect, stimulus and response, black and white, I will—You will, no wiggle room statement. It is either the parties to the covenant do or don't and since God cannot fail, the onus is on me to live according to the Word.

But You, in Your mercy, know that I am a weak and failing vessel. Therefore You have sent the Comforter to guide me into all truth and to remind me of all that You have said. Praise You, my Lord and Master.

## *VOICES TOGETHER*

*Daily Meditations from the Psalms*



*September 14-20, 2015*

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, [www.ailbe.org](http://www.ailbe.org); along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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