

5-1-22 Facilitator – Walking in Love, Ephesians 5:1-21, Sermon Tim Rice

1. **Launchers:** Who have been the people in your life that you have imitated? How do you imitate God?

2. **Worship God who has called us out of darkness.**

Have fun as God's redeemed people cleansed from guilt and shame to walk in newness of life (light).

1 John 1:5-7

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

1 Corinthians 1:30-31

3. **Sermon Reflection: Ephesians 5:1-21 Walking in Love and Wisdom**

ILLUMINED & LOVING

- How has God designed us for love and wisdom?
- What should be our true goal?
- How would you live differently if you sensed his presence at every moment, in every meeting?

TWISTED & CORRUPT

- How have we distorted God's good design for us and others?
- What do you love about God and His design?
- What distortion of God's goodness and design gets twisted for you or gets you tied up in knots?

COVERED & FILLED

- How do we gain wisdom from God and power to live differently?
- **Vs 1-2 Remind yourself that you are "a beloved child of God"! Then and only then can we walk in Love!**

4. **Kingdom Centered Prayer:** YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

1. Worship the LORD, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for how He loves sinners, even when we have been unloving and unfaithful toward Him. Praise God for His character to be compassionate to His enemies who repent.

2. How have you lived foolishly – either ignorant by your own doing, or corrupt, or drunk on the things of this world? Confess your idolatry and lack of love to Jesus, asking Him to cleanse you and change your heart to love His Father more than any created thing or experience

3. Give thanks to Jesus for how He is a Savior of the ugly, guilty, disgraced, and enslaved. Thank Him for loving you, and that while He knew exactly what it would take to restore us, that He did it!

4. Who do you know that is battered by the effects of foolishness and sexual immorality? Pray for them, asking the Lord Jesus to work in their life to heal and forgive them as well as free them from the bondage to idols.

5. Pray for the Holy Spirit to pour out His power upon you, to weaken the hold sin has on you and to deepen your love for Him. Ask for growth in your faithfulness, especially as it is a fruit of the Spirit.

5. **Mission: Walk in love by imitating God as we care for the twisted**

The cultural distortions committed to twisting God's design have us, our friends, neighbors, and enemies tied up in knots. Without God in the world, many times we live worried, pained, anxious lives spent struggling to have what is harmful and to achieve what is vain and pointless. Exhausted we don't know how to untie ourselves from ourselves and from the world. Well, we can pray. We can cry to God for help. Prayer breaks the hold of the world on us and breaks our hold on the world. So, we can pray for ourselves and for our friends, co-workers, family and even our enemies.

Be anxious for nothing but in everything by prayer and thanksgiving make your requests to God. Pray with and for your friends this week. Ask God to disentangle them from the world and attach themselves to Him.

See how many folks you can pray with and for each day.