

Today's Scripture Reading:

## **EPHESIANS 5:1-14**



Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.<sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. <sup>3</sup> But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. <sup>4</sup> Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.



<sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup> Therefore do not become partners with them; <sup>8</sup> for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),



<sup>10</sup> and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup> But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup> for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

















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**1 John 3:1:** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

**Romans 5:8:** but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**Romans 12:** I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.



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**Isaiah 60:1-2:** Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup> For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

**John 8:12:** Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."



## How do I discern what is pleasing to the Lord?

• Step One: eliminate the previous things mentioned:

- No sexual immorality (v.3)
- Crude and inappropriate talking (v.4)
- Dodging empty words (v.6)
- No anger which leads to sin (4:26)
- No stealing (4:28)
- Being generous (4:28)
- No malice (4:31)
- No rage (4:31)



How do I discern what is pleasing to the Lord?
WALK as children of the light. (V.8)
When you are walking and seeking to please God you are far more likely to be able to discern God's will.



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