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A STUDY IN EPHESIANS

"Be Imitators of God" by Pastor Steve Durand



<sup>1</sup> Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup> and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.



<sup>3</sup> But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.



<sup>4</sup> Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.



<sup>5</sup> For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.



<sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partners with them.



<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord.



<sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. <sup>12</sup> It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.



<sup>13</sup> But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light.



This is why it is said:
 "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."



<sup>15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.



<sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. <sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery.



Instead, be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.



Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



<sup>21</sup> Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

















INCLUSION
THEN =



Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children



#### Ephesians 4:22-24

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;



#### Ephesians 4:22-24

23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds;
 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.



Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children





# How believers are specifically called to imitate God:

1. Walk in love (vv. 1-2)



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#### 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.





## How believers are specifically called to imitate God:

- 1. Walk in love (vv. 1-2)
- 2. Walk in light (vv. 3-14)



For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light









For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light



## How believers are specifically called to imitate God:

- 1. Walk in love (vv. 1-2)
- 2. Walk in light (vv. 3-14)
- 3. Walk in wisdom (vv. 15-21)



<sup>15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.





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