

## Imitating God!

Eph. 5:1-7

1 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children

2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

3 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.

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

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

6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.

7 Therefore do not be partners with them.

Imitate = 1.To follow as a pattern, model, or example 2.Mimic 3.To be or appear like or resemble 4.To produce a copy of or reproduce

Jer. 29:8-9

8 Yes, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have.

9 They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them," declares the LORD.

Matt. 24:4 - Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you.

Col. 2:8 - See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

2 Thess. 2:10-12

10 They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

11 For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie

12 and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

2 Tim. 4:3-4

3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

Isa. 29:13 - The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Lord, help us all for losing our focus of the Cross!

Eph. 5:6 - Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are DISOBEDIENT.

Eph. 5:8-10

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

9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)

10 and find out what pleases the Lord.

Vs 10 - find out what pleases the Lord.

Eph. 5:11-20

11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

12 For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.

13 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible,

14 for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,

16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

## OBEDIENCE TO PARENTS

Col. 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

## PRAYER

1 Tim. 2:1-4

1 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—

2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior,

4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

Pr. 15:8 - The LORD detests the sacrifice of the wicked, but the prayer of the upright pleases him.

## INTEGRITY

1 Chron. 29:17 - I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you.

## DOING GOOD AND SHARING WITH OTHERS

Heb. 13:16 - And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

## BEING SPIRIT-CONTROLLED

Rom. 8:8 (NKJV) - So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

(AMP) So then those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please or satisfy God, or be acceptable to Him.

(NIV) Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

## BEARING FRUIT

Col. 1:9-12

9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.

10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,

11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully

12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

## FEARING HIM

Psalm 147:11 (AMP) - The Lord takes pleasure in those who reverently and worshipfully fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy and loving-kindness.

(KJV) The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him, In those who hope in His mercy.

## FAITH

Hebrews 11:5-6

5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

## OBEDIENCE TO GOD AND HIS WORD

1 John 3:22 - and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.

John 8:29 - Jesus said: The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him."

"This is my beloved Son, in Him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17, Matthew 17:5)

1 John 4:16-18

16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus.

18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.