

Ephesians 5

Discussion Guide

Pre-discussion Question

Think of successfully married couples you have known. What are some qualities you have seen in them that contribute to the health of their marriages?

RSR: Read, Summarize, React

Read: Read through the passage silently or together or listen to it.

Summarize: Using your own words, summarize the passage. In this passage, what are the *one or two main ideas or goals* Paul is trying to express or accomplish, either directly or through example?

React:

Likes: Ideas/phrases you particularly like

Questions: Ideas/phrases that confuse you or bring up questions

Connections: Does this passage remind you of another Bible passage or story or something in the culture or in your own life?

Applications: What life principles do you see here? How can you apply this chapter to your own life? How can we apply this chapter to life in the Body of Messiah?

Specific Questions

Read again the following passage:

Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Messiah will shine on you." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise," (Ephesians 5:7-15)

1. How do the following tend to speak about what others do in secret: 1) those of the world, 2) the church, 3) the media?
2. How can Paul say on the one hand "expose works of darkness" but on the other hand also say "it is shameful even to speak of the things" done in secret?
3. Is it wrong to listen to political commentators? How should Believers approach discussing our governmental leaders and other authorities?