

“What Behavior Within the Ekklesia Looks Like” pt. 2

Series: Learning to Live “in Christ” - Ephesians

Tony Thornton, Senior Minister/Itawamba Christian Church
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Behavior is the result of our Hearts and what we feed those hearts through the thoughts of our minds. In Christ, we have what is needed to live as Light within a Dark World.

“His divine power has **given us everything we need for a godly life** through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.” 2 Peter 1:3

Last week, we were reminded that our Behavior can either enhance or diminish the Ekklesia. Speech (Truthful/Edifying), Work, not Theft and Managed Anger all enhance the Ekklesia’s brightness.

Also, we were reminded that the Holy Spirit is continually guiding/directing us and we need to learn to Yield to and not Grieve Him.

Today, Paul again identifies troublesome areas and share another important key/insight for Ekklesia to reach its potential!

Ekklesia must be able to pass the _____ !

“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. ⁴Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵For 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.” Ephesians 5:3-5

Paul’s teaching parallels a similar teaching found in 1 John 2:15-17

“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶For everything in the world—the **lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.** ¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.”

The Ekklesia must guard against _____ from within!

“Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷Therefore do not be partners with them.” Ephesians 5:6-7

Remember: Now, in the Lord, we are Light! Live to _____ the Lord!

“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.**”

Ephesians 5:8-10

“After all, at one time you were darkness, but now, in the Lord, you are light! So behave as children of light. ⁹Light has its fruit, doesn’t it, in everything that’s good, and just, and true. ¹⁰**Think through what’s going to be pleasing to the Lord. Work it out.**” Ephesians 5:8-10 (NTE)

Conclusion:

Do you value the Ekklesia?

Is HIS LIGHT shining it’s brightest in You and US?

All Scriptures are from the New International Version unless noted.

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brotony@itawambachristianchurch.org