

We Are God's Family
A People Informed by "Truth"- Part 2
Ephesians 5:1-14

The "Truth Informed" Life

*"If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and **the truth shall make you free.**" John 8:32*

Ephesians 4:20-24 *"just as **truth is in Jesus**... "be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth."*

The Spirit of Our Mind is Informed by Truth

Truth Informs Who We** are Now as Children of God. We have His DNA within us. **Truth Informs a Righteous and Holy Life

Last Week: "Seven Guidelines" for A Child of God

Holiness is self-management

Righteousness is how I treat others

- 4:25 **SELF:** Truth Focused: We prioritize truths about what Jesus would do in life rather than justifying our choices with falsehood.
- 4:26-27 **OTHERS:** Anger Management: We manage our anger quickly without doing what is hurtful to others.
- 4:28 **SELF:** Work Ethic: We prioritize working for what we need and enjoy without expecting others to provide for us.
- 4:29 **OTHERS** Tongue Management: We guard our tongue to make sure we only speak words that are encouraging to others.
- 4:30 **SELF:** Holy Spirit Sensitivity: We do not do anything that would grieve the Holy Spirit who is living and working in us.
- 4:31 **OTHERS:** Feelings and Tendency Management: We eliminate holding onto hurt and tendencies to hurt back by badmouthing.
- 4:32 **OTHERS:** Embracing a Christ-like Disposition: Kindness, A Soft-Heart and Forgiveness are what we practice so that they become habits.

I am God's Child Trying to be More Like Him

1. **I seek to be as loving as Jesus was loving. (5:1-2)**

"I live a sacrificial life for others"

2. **I am a "Saint" guarding my sexuality, purity and desires. (5:3-6)**

Immorality (vss. 3 and 5)- sexual relations outside of the marriage of a man and a woman (See Jesus' teaching in Matthew 19:3-12)

Impurity/Uncleanness (vss. 3 and 5)- typically a reference to the influence of unclean spirits, thus offensive to the Holy Spirit.

Greed/Coveting/Idolater (vss. 3 and 5)- valuing anything in this world more than God is Idolatry.

3. **I will not be manipulated to compromise. (5:6-14)**

I know what God hates. I cannot participate. (vs. 5-7)

These things are not consistent with who I am. (vs. 8)

My commitment is learning to please Jesus Christ. (vs. 9-10)

Rather than compromise, I will oppose. (vs. 11-13)

I Am Committed to Managing My Spirituality

- ***My spiritual health is reflected in how I manage my body, mind and devotion to God.***

Sexuality, Outside influences upon my mind, Detachment from the love of this world more than God.

- ***I will wake up and allow the light of Jesus to flow through every part of my spiritual being. (Ephesians 5:14)***

*"Awake, O sleeper,
rise up from the dead,
and Christ will give you light." NLV*