

LG | Leader

[Ephesians 5:15-24]

WARM-UP (10 mins)

Let's take a moment to still our minds and go to the Lord in prayer.

- In your time with the Lord, what is He teaching you?
- When you reflect on Sunday's sermon, what impacted you the most? Anything that convicted you personally or stirred your affection towards the Lord?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. How do we "walk carefully" as one that is wise? Where do you currently go for wisdom?
We must first know what wisdom is. Reading biblical wisdom is the best starting point. Let's take a short tour of the book of wisdom – Proverbs. (Prov. 1:7; 2:1-5; 10:1; 12:15; 13:16,20; 14:16; 28:26). The book of James reminds us also that we can ask for wisdom (Jas 1:5).
2. Why do you think Paul is reminding believers to make the best use of their time?
Paul understands that our lives are brief, and Jesus will soon return. Christians are not to waste their days because we are living in the last days (Hebrews 1:1).
3. Verse 17 says that we need to "understand what the will of the Lord is." What do you think Paul is saying here?
It is one thing to seek the will of God, using discernment when making a life decision, but Paul is speaking here about knowing God's already revealed will. We are to know and understand the Bible and what it says. We are to be obedient to what God has already made known to us in Scripture. [Example: To be lovers of truth, acting justly, loving mercy, walking humbly, considering other better than ourselves, not being foolish etc.]
4. According to this passage, what does being filled with the Spirit look like?
Being filled with psalms, hymns, songs, and being full of thanksgiving towards the Lord.
5. What are you filling yourself with? Are you filling yourself with more of the world or more of the Spirit?
Christians have choices: We must choose to live as vessels that house the Spirit.
Explicit Music vs. Worship Music
Polluted TV vs. Family Oriented TV
3hrs of Social Media vs. 30 minutes of your Bible

6. Verse 21 gives way to verses 22-33. What key takeaways do we learn about Christians, husbands, and wives in this text? What do they all orient around?

Christians – submit to one another out of reverence **for Christ**

Wives – submit to your own husband, **as to the Lord**

Husbands – love your wife, **as Christ** love the church

- They all orient around God and Christ. Imitating His love for His glory.

7. In chapter 5, what do you think Paul would tell us is the most important theme in this text?

Be filled with the Spirit. If one is filled with the Spirit, they will walk in love in every aspect of life.

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.

Commentary Reference:

- ESV Study Bible Commentary

- Merida, Tony. *Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary: Exalting Jesus in Ephesians*. B&H Publishing Group; Nashville, Tennessee, 2014.