

## **Lesson 7**

### **Read Ephesians chapter 4**

#### **The darkness of unbelief**

1. In verse 1 Paul entreated (or begged) the Ephesians to live a life that reflected their new position as children of God. How does he emphasize the importance of what he is saying in verse 17a?
2. What is the example that Paul uses to contrast how they should now be living? (17b)
3. Look back to chapter 2:1-3. How is the life of an unbeliever described?
4. According to Titus 1:15 & 16, what two things are defiled/broken?
5. Using Ephesians 4:17, 18 & 19, list the progression of spiritual darkness in the lives of those who reject the truth.
6. Consider Romans 1:21-23. Make a similar list of the degeneration of unbelievers described here.

7. As this alienation progresses, what terrifying action can result? (Romans 1:24 and 28)

8. How can a person escape the blindness and the depravity that sin causes in our lives? See 2 Cor. 4:3-6 and John 1:1-13

**The light of the truth**

9. If you have acknowledged the Lord Jesus Christ as your savior and your lord, what things are true in your life according to I Cor. 6:11?

10. In Ephesians 4:20 Paul begins to show us the contrast between the mind and life of the unbeliever and the mind and life of the Christian. According to verse 21, where do we find truth?

11. What did Jesus say about "truth" in John 14:6?

12. Jesus prayed for us to be sanctified in the truth. What is the source of truth in John 17:17?

13. In Ephesians 4:22 we are told to "lay aside" the old self with its corruption and lusts of deceit. What part of a believer needs to be renewed? (vs 23)

14. What assurance does God offer us that this renewal is possible? see II Peter 1:3&4

15. After we have laid aside the old self, we can put on the new self. Since it is in the likeness of God, what are two of its characteristics? (Ephesians 4:24)

16. Verses 25-32 show us the contrasts between living for self and living for Christ. Fill in the chart below: (You may not find information for all three columns in every verse.)

	Living an ungodly lifestyle:	Living to honor Christ:	Why:
vs. 25			
vs. 26/27			
vs. 28			
vs. 29			
vs. 30/31			
vs. 32			

### **Read Ephesians 5:1-21**

#### **Righteous living**

17. In verse 1, we are described as "beloved children". Because we are loved and because God is our father, what should we strive to do? (vs. 1)

18. Verse 1 begins with the word "therefore", so we need to look back to the preceding verse (4:32) to follow Paul's logic. What should be our motivation for these instructions that we are about to receive?

19. Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, so we should also walk in \_\_\_\_\_ towards each other. (vs. 2)

20. Compare Romans 8:29 and I Peter 1:14-16. We are not to be conformed to \_\_\_\_\_, but instead to the \_\_\_\_\_.

21. If we are truly conformed to His image, we will be \_\_\_\_\_.  
(I Peter 1:15 & 16)

### **Righteous conversation**

22. What three things should not even be named among Christians according to Ephesians 5:3?

23. Now Paul addresses the believer's words. What is totally out of place in a Christian's conversation? (vs. 4)

24. In contrast, what does please the Lord? (vs. 4b)

25. According to Romans 6:12 & 13, how are we to present ourselves to God?

### **The fruit of righteousness**

26. Read Ephesians 5:5 & 6. Often today, as it was in Ephesus, we are taught that we need to be "tolerant" of others and that we don't have any right to judge other's behavior. We are to treat all people with love and compassion, but what do these verses tell us that we should know with certainty?

27. Consider verses 7-14. What differences between believers and unbelievers should be obvious to anyone who is watching?

28. According to Romans 12:1-3, how can we learn what is God's good, pleasing and perfect will?

29. Christians are children of light (Ephesians 5:8) What happens when the light of Christ is lived out near the unfruitful deeds of darkness? (vs. 11-13)

***Verse 14 could also be translated "stand up out of the dead ones". In other words, don't be ashamed to be different and to let your newness in Christ become obvious. Remember the admonition in verse 1 to be imitators of God.***

30. What powerful tool has God provided to teach, reprove, rebuke and exhort both ourselves and fellow believers? Psalm 119:105, 119:130, 2 Tim. 3:16 & 17

31. Read Ephesians 5:15-21. Once again we are admonished to live wisely. Why is this important, according to verse 16?

***In verse 18 we are commanded not to "get drunk with wine" which is debauchery (extreme indulgence). Instead of being controlled by substance abuse, we should be controlled by the Spirit.***

32. What very tangible actions are tied to being filled with the Spirit? (vs. 19) Compare also Col. 3:16.

33. What should be the hallmark of all believers? (vs. 20) See also Heb. 13:15.