## New Testament Bible Study Series Ephesians 5:15-21, 6:1-9

September22, 2017

Recall in our previous study we examined what it meant to be an imitator of God; to be free from sexual immorality, free from foolish talk and crude joking. For the wrath of God is coming upon thosewho continue tolive in the darkness and are unrepentant. In contrast, believers are called to seek the will of God by exposing the darkness of sin, correcting one another in love and building each another up into Christlikeness which is maturity.

**Read Eph 5:15-21** - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

1. How do the unwise or foolish walk?	In contrast, how do the wise walk?
Also consider Prov 1:7, 22, 1 Cor 2:14.	Also consider Col 3:16-17, Gal 5:16-23
2.What does it mean to make the best use of the time because the days are evil (cf. 1 Cor 7:29-31,Psalm 90:12)? How do we submit to one another out of reverence for Christ and what is our attitude in doing so (cf. Eph 4:1-3)?	
3.In private, Benapproaches younoting thatyouseem tobe dexampleswhere you havebrowsed your phone during serme you andcalls you to examine yourself and stop being unwise world offers, Ben calls you to return to true Christianfellows passage inform your thoughts/response? How does Christ response in the call of the cal	ons and fellowship.Ben states that he/she is concerned about with your time. Instead offilling yourself up with what the ship and set your mind on eternal things. How does the
Understand that time is ( r s i u p e o	

word, dominate everything that is thought and done. How do you live in light of eternity today?

Moving onto Ephesians 5:22-6:9, we will see how the Spirit leads the believer in all wisdom to understand that submissionis done in accordance to the authority and order established by God.Paul provides three examples that serve to help us understand this;1.Relationship of husband and wife 2. Relationship of parent and child 3. Relationship of master and slave. Next study, we will wrap up5:22-33, examining the relationship between husbands and wives.

## Read Ephesians 6:1-9

Eph 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. [5:21]...submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

- 4. The submission of 5:21 is exemplified in the command that children are to submit to the authority of their parents.
  - a. How should children honour their parents and why (cf. Col 3:20)? This is the first commandment taught to children which holds a promise from God. What is this promise (cf. Ex 20:12, Deut 5:16)?
  - b. Parents are to nurture their children in the Lord and not embitter them. How are parents to bring the children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (cf. Pro 22:6, Deut 6:4-9)?

Eph 6:5-9 - Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, [8] knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

- 5. The submission of 5:21 is further illustrated between bondservants submitting to the authority of their masters (recall the context; slaves were an integral part of the society in that age). This is a commandment from the Lord.
  - a. Based on the text, how should a faithful bondservant act? Should the promise of areward fuel us to be faithful?
  - b. Paul makes it clear to the masters that the very same principles apply to them as well (v9). For the masters, they are to do well to those in submission to them and not to take advantage of them byexercising their authority unjustly. Why does Paul make this case (cf.2 Chron 19:7)?
  - c. The principles of submission outlined have parallels in to our own day,most closely witnessed in relationships between employees and employers and students and their studies. How canyou practically serve God faithfullyinyourseason of lifetodayin light of the text?

Hosea 14:9 - Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the LORD are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them.