

Imitate Christ — A 5-Day Devotional Through Ephesians 5

Day 1 — Walking in Love

 **Scripture:** *Ephesians 5:1-2* “Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love...”

 **Devotional Thought:** “Be imitators of God.” At first glance that can sound impossible. How could imperfect people imitate a perfect God? But Paul reminds us why we can live this way — because we are “dearly loved children.” Jesus loved sacrificially, forgave freely, served humbly, and showed patience continually. Because He first loved us, we are now called to reflect that same love to others. Imitating God starts in the everyday moments of life.

 **Reflection:** In what area of your life do you most need to imitate Christ’s love today?

 **Prayer:** Lord, thank You for loving me first. Help me to reflect Your love in my words, attitudes, and actions. Teach me to forgive, serve, and love others the way You have loved me. Amen.

Day 2 — Children of Light

 **Scripture:** *Ephesians 5:8-11* “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.”

 **Devotional Thought:** Once we lived in darkness, but now we belong to the light. Salvation is not simply about improving our behavior; it is about becoming new in Christ. As we spend time in Scripture and allow the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, God gradually shapes us to become more like Christ. This process is called sanctification. Living as children of light means intentionally pursuing purity, honesty, and righteousness.

 **Reflection:** Are there any areas of compromise or darkness that God is calling you to surrender?

 **Prayer:** Father, help me walk as a child of light. Expose anything in my life that does not honor You, and give me the courage to pursue holiness. Let my life reflect the goodness and truth of Christ. Amen.

Day 3 — Making the Most of Every Opportunity

 **Scripture:** *Ephesians 5:15-20* “Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity...”

 **Devotional Thought:** We must live wisely and intentionally. If we constantly saturate ourselves with fear, anger, and negativity, our spiritual lives will weaken. But when we fill ourselves with God’s Word, prayer, worship, and fellowship, our faith grows stronger. This echoes the instruction found in Deuteronomy 6 — to keep God’s Word constantly before us. Speak about it throughout the day. Think about it when you wake up and when you lie down. Build your life around the truth of God rather than the chaos of the world.

 **Reflection:** What has been filling your mind and heart lately — the noise of the world or the truth of God?

 **Prayer:** Lord, help me live wisely and make the most of every opportunity You give me. Fill my heart with Your Word and strengthen me through Your Spirit. Teach me to focus on what is eternal rather than temporary. Amen.

Day 4 — Christlike Love in Marriage

 **Scripture:** *Ephesians 5:21-33* “Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”

 **Devotional Thought:** The foundation of biblical marriage is not power, control, or selfishness — it is mutual submission rooted in reverence for Christ. Jesus is the ultimate example — He laid aside His glory, washed His disciples’ feet, and gave His life for His people. Marriage is meant to reflect that same sacrificial love. Biblical submission comes from Christlike humility. Husbands are not called to dominate their wives, and wives are not called to become voiceless servants. Instead, both are called to honor Christ through love, respect, service, and faithfulness.

 **Reflection:** How can you better reflect Christ’s humility, service, and encouragement within your relationships?

 **Prayer:** Jesus, help me love others with humility and grace. Teach me to serve rather than demand, to encourage rather than criticize, and to reflect Your sacrificial love in my relationships. Amen.

Day 5 — Honoring God Through Family

 **Scripture:** *Ephesians 6:1-3* “Honor your father and mother...”

 **Devotional Thought:** God cares deeply about the relationships within a family. Honoring parents goes beyond simple obedience or completing responsibilities; it speaks to an attitude of love, respect, and integrity. Of course, Scripture recognizes that not every family situation is healthy or honorable. Sometimes honor means choosing to live with godly character even when others have failed to do so. The way we live reflects upon our families, our churches, and ultimately Christ Himself. When we imitate God in our relationships, we become living testimonies of His grace and truth.

 **Reflection:** What would it look like for you to honor God more intentionally within your family relationships?

 **Prayer:** Father, help me honor You in the way I treat my family and others around me. Give me wisdom, humility, and integrity so that my life reflects Your character. Let my relationships bring glory to You. Amen.