



Ephesians 5

The Choir and Oratory Room
The Room of Song



And so we enter the Room of Song

Ephesians 5

**The journey to learn how God wants us to live
as FOLLOWERS continues**



The **Room of Song** is where we Praise our God and then go out into the world as **FOLLOWERS** of God.

We are called to be:

Imitators of God, and
To live a life of love

So how do we don this?



Ephesians 5: 1-2 (The Message)

Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. **Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with Him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.**



God is our example:

- If you want to know how a person lives – WATCH
 - If you want to know how God lives – LOOK at Jesus example.
 - And MOSTLY what He does is love
 - Just look at Jesus example – to the cross unconditionally
 - And **unconditionally** means without expecting anything in return.
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- Are you ready to live like this?
 - If so then this is how you do it!
 - And the scripture reinforces it



Ephesians 5:3-5 (Message)

Don't allow love to turn into lust, ***setting off a downhill slide into sexual promiscuity, filthy practices, or bullying greed***. Though some tongues just love the taste of gossip, those who follow Jesus have better uses for language than that. Don't talk dirty or silly. That kind of talk doesn't fit our style. **Thanksgiving is our dialect.**

JAMES 3:3-12

You can be sure that **using people or religion or things just for what you can get out of them** — the usual variations on idolatry—will get you nowhere, and certainly nowhere near the kingdom of Christ, the kingdom of God.



Ephesians 5:6-7 (Message)

Don't let yourselves get taken in by religious smooth talk. God gets furious with people who are full of religious sales talk but want nothing to do with him. Don't even hang around people like that.

Many say that the religious things you are doing are the will of God.

There is a difference between being religious or righteous!



Religious people try to make you believe that the religious things you are doing are the will of God.

Righteous people focus on growing

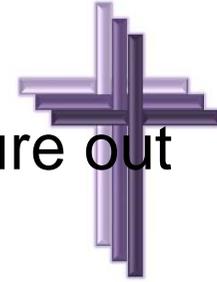
- by developing a closer relationship with Jesus
- by building each other up
- by developing trustworthy relationships
- by increasing a lifestyle of service.

Religious people focus on their knowledge and traditions

Righteous people focus on their relationship with Jesus

The result of our relationship with Jesus is that...

- our heart is filled with Christ
- your sinful past is removed
- all our sins are forgiven



Religious people base their lives on what they can figure out
Righteous people recognize their limitations
Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your
own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And
He shall direct your paths (Proverbs 3:5-6 – NKJV).

Religious people focus on the form
Righteous people focus on the purpose

Religious people want to pay for God's free stuff
Righteous people receive what God freely gives

Religious people focus on rigid understandings
Righteous people focus on honourable motives



Religious people judge one another based on what they believe is right or wrong

Righteous people love those around them more than themselves and are accountable to Jesus and His people.

Religious people value insignificant things

Righteous people value what God values.

Religious people spiritualize their preferences.

Righteous people prefer spiritual things.



Ephesians 5:8-16 (Message)

You groped your way through that murk once, but no longer. **You're out in the open now.** The bright light of Christ makes your way plain. **So no more stumbling around.** Get on with it! **The good, the right, the true** — these are the **actions appropriate** for daylight hours. **Figure out what will please Christ,** and then do it. Don't waste your time on useless work, mere busywork, the barren pursuits of darkness. Expose these things for the sham they are. It's a scandal when **people waste their lives on things they must do in the darkness** where no one will see. Rip the cover off those frauds and see how attractive they look in the light of Christ.

Ephesians 5:16-20 (Message)



Wake up from your sleep,

Climb out of your coffins;

Christ will show you the light!

So **watch your step. Use your head.** Make the most of every chance you get. These are desperate times!

Don't live carelessly, unthinkingly. Make sure you understand what the Master wants.

Don't drink too much wine. That cheapens your life. Drink the Spirit of God, huge draughts of him. **Sing hymns instead of drinking songs! Sing songs from your heart to Christ. Sing praises over everything, any excuse for a song to God the Father in the name of our Master, Jesus Christ.**



And now Paul goes on to address a most important element for a successful church:

RELATIONSHIPS

Millions of Books have been written on this subject
Millions of TV dollars have been spent on this subject
The main topic of discussion in any analysts office is this.

So even the world knows that it is important!



**There's one sad truth in life I've found
While journeying east and west -
The only folks we really wound
Are those we love the best.
We flatter those we scarcely know,
We please the fleeting guest,
And deal full many a thoughtless blow
To those who love us best.**



~Ella Wheeler Wilcox~



Ephesians 5:21

Out of respect for Christ, be courteously reverent to one another.

A most important truth. A FOUNDATION for any relationship.

This is the only way a relationship can last.

Because of what Jesus did I have NO excuse to treat people without respect.



Ephesians 5:22-24 (Message)

Wives, **understand and support your husbands** in ways that show your support for Christ. The husband provides **leadership** to his wife **the way Christ does to his church**, not by domineering but by cherishing. So just as the church submits to Christ as he exercises such leadership, wives should likewise submit to their husbands.

Probably the most quoted scripture at weddings.
And the wife gives you a stare of death!
But what does it really mean?



Ephesians 5:25-28 (Message)

Husbands, go all out in your love for your wives, **exactly as Christ did for the church** — a love marked by giving, not getting. Christ's love makes the **church whole**. His words **evoke her beauty**. **Everything he does and says is designed to bring the best out of her**, dressing her in dazzling white silk, radiant with holiness. And that is how husbands ought to love their wives. They're really doing themselves a favor—since they're already "one" in marriage.



Let us think about this for a moment!

Wives must submit to their husbands
Husbands must love their wives

How? As Christ loves the church.

This is a spiritual leadership.

Wives submit to your husbands spiritual leadership

The husband has spiritual authority

But with authority comes accountability



Ephesians 5:29-33 (Message)

No one abuses his own body, does he? No, he feeds and pampers it. That's how Christ treats us, the church, since we are part of his body. And this is why a man leaves father and mother and cherishes his wife. No longer two, they become "one flesh." This is a huge mystery, and I don't pretend to understand it all. What is clearest to me is the way Christ treats the church. And this provides a good picture of how each husband is to treat his wife, loving himself in loving her, and how each wife is to honor her husband.

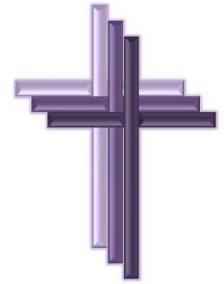


And in Chapter 6 the ARMOURY we will continue with relationships.

And then go on to find out how when we FOLLOW God's example the devil will try to attack BUT God encourages us that by putting on the Armour of God we will be able to withstand the schemes of the devil.



The
Armor
of
God



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