

Sermon Based Discussion Guide

Date 2/5/23 Pastor Bryce Taylor

Watch the sermon at manheimbic.org/sermon.



BIBLE PASSAGES

Ephesians 4:17-5:7

The New Life

17Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. **18**They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. **19**They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. **20**But that is not the way you learned Christ!— **21**assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, **22**to put off your old self,^f which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, **23**and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, **24**and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

25Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. **26**Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, **27**and give no opportunity to the devil. **28**Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. **29**Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. **30**And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31**Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. **32**Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Walk in Love

1Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. **2**And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

3But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. **4**Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. **5**For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. **6**Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. **7**Therefore do not become partners with them;

Other Bible Passages: John 8:4-11, 1 Corinthians 6:17-20, 2 Corinthians 5:16-17, Genesis 1

Use these notes as discussion prompts for your group, or in your personal time with God.

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

- 1) Can you share a time when it was hard to share the truth with someone, or hard to hear the truth from someone?
- 2) Discuss John 8 and how this interaction that Jesus has with the adulterous woman makes you feel. Do you feel it is an important example for us today? Why or why not?
- 3) What does it mean to not have even a hint of sexual impurity in our homes in today's world? What are some things you have tried in the past to accomplish this?
- 4) Which of the four directives from Paul will be the hardest for you to adopt moving forward; As Pastor Bryce phrased them: *Love Truth, Speak Life, Guard your heart, Renew your mind*? How have you already adopted some of them?
- 5) Please take extra time this week to pray for one another for those things you indicated that you will be wanting to see God work on.

Please take time to pray for our community and the needs within it. This is an area of great hurt and division, and we believe God has a plan to restore many relationships in families over this next year.

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS