

# Session #8: Ephesians Chapter 5:3-???

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## Be Children of the Light 5:3-20

In our journey through this second half of Ephesians we looked at and discuss the building up of



the Church (4:1-16) and last week explored St. Paul's teachings challenging us to stop living as the old self that embraced the ways of the world, and put on a new self, one that embraces the grace and life of Christ by imitating Christ (4:17-5:2). In our study today, we will see that St. Paul turns back to discussing specific behaviors that we are challenged to embrace and behaviors that should no

longer be in our lives. And rather than compare the old self to the new self, St. Paul will look at what makes us holy in the Christian way in contrast to the darkness of the society that surrounds us. If we live in a holy way then we will shine God's light to all those we meet. And in living as imitators of Christ our lives become an act of worship.

## Sexual Immorality 5:3-4

### **5:3 immorality and all impurity**

Looking at the original Greek tells us that what St. Paul is talking about is sexual misconduct, sexual immorality and fornication. An attitude of sexual freedom characterized the pagan world of the 1<sup>st</sup> century (much like it characterizes much of today's world). In putting on the *new self* our journey is to holiness. How can one embrace holiness when they continue to mire themselves down in bad behavior. Scholars suggest that St. Paul is challenging Christians to stay away from thinking about, speaking about, or joking about obscenities because any or all of that can lead to actions. Chastity is the standard for a Christian meaning that

## Reflection Questions:

1. Most

## Catechism of the Catholic Church

Struggl

## Bibliography:

- The Catholic Study Bible NAR

- The New Daily Study Bible: The Acts of the Apostles by William Barclay
- The Navarre Bible: Acts of the Apostles
- New Collegeville Bible Commentary: The Acts of the Apostles by Dennis Hamm
- Ignatius Catholic Study Bible: Acts of the Apostles by Scott Hahn and Curtis Mitch
- Agape Bible Study: Gospel of Luke by Michal Hunt. [AgapeBibleStudy.com](http://AgapeBibleStudy.com)
- Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom by Jeff Cavins and Sarah Christmyer