

## Community Group Discussion Questions

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### “Walking the Walk” Ephesians 5:15-21

**Passage Setting:** Ephesians is Paul’s letter to the beloved church there, whom he entrusted his disciple, Timothy, to pastor. The first three chapters are about the theology of salvation, while the last three chapters are about the application of salvation. In Ephesians 5-6, we see Paul addressing our walk, marriages, parenting, and work.

**Summary:** In his letter to the Galatians, Paul exhorts Christians to walk in the Spirit, showing what this walk looks like (the fruit of the Spirit). In Ephesians Paul provides instructions on how the Christian can practice walking in this way.

#### Central Truth:

#### Sermon Points:

1. Mind Your Time
2. Mind Your Words
3. Mind Your Attitude

***Before looking at our last two Fruits of the Spirit (gentleness, self-control), we’re going to discuss Pastor Evan’s sermon<sup>1</sup> from Ephesians 5.***

#### ***Read Ephesians 5:15-21***

1. Consider how you spend your time on an average day. What are some ways you might intentionally focus this time on the things of God?

*(Answers may vary.)*

*Paul calls us to make the best use of (redeem or purchase) our time during this evil age. This means that part of the best use of our time is to do good. We see that we are called to be wise (v. 15) and understand God’s will (v. 17), which means we should spend much time in God’s word, meditation, and prayer. We must walk in love (v. 2) and we walk with the church (ch. 2). During this evil age, we are called to holiness, which involves discipline.)*

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<sup>1</sup> Because this handout was created before P. Evan’s sermon, use it as a guide but first refer to his sermon preached on 04/28.

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2. Why do you think Paul compares drunkenness with being filled with the Spirit?

*(Wine was a staple drink of Paul's time back then, so many knew the effects of alcohol. Jesus drank wine, so we know that it is not a sin to drink, but it is a sin to get drunk. Being drunk with wine means that we are controlled by the alcohol and impaired in our judgment. Throughout the New Testament, we are called to be sober-minded (1 Peter 5:8-9) and self-controlled (Fruit of the Spirit). Being filled with the Spirit is an ongoing, daily action, which leads us to know God's heart (1 Cor. 2:11) and be renewed in our spirit (Psalm 51:10).)*

3. What are some ways you can use words to edify (build up) your family/friends/church members?

*(Answers may vary.)*

*V. 19- we address one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. We sing praise to the Lord with one another and to one another. We exhort and encourage in worship. We correct in love, and we build up through gracious and merciful words. We say to others what God has spoken over them. We give thanks for one another and submit to each other.)*

4. How often do you feel grateful towards God?

*(Answers may vary.)*

5. How might you direct gratitude towards God even during hard times?

*(We give thanks always and for everything. Paul doesn't call us to give thanks only during the good times but also the hard times. We thank God for His sovereignty and wisdom. We thank God for His promises and our future glory- to make all things right. Most of all, we thank God for being a God who doesn't sit back away from our pain, but He entered our world of pain as a man, to take on pain, punishment, and judgment for our sins.)*