

BLUEPRINT

LIFE NOTES

Ephesians 5:3-14

January 7, 2018

QUESTIONS

1. In verses 3 and 5, Paul reminds his audience of living a pure life, especially in the area of sexuality. Why was this issue important for him to address given the region in which they lived? Do you see similarities between their culture and our culture?

2. Paul also addresses the way they are to speak to one another. Take some time to discuss what the types of wrong speech are according to verses 4, 6 and 12. Do you find it difficult to control your tongue (cf. James 3:1-12)? Take some time in prayer to allow the Spirit to point out areas of speech that are not God-honouring and allow Him to forgive you.

3. On a positive note, this passage is about living in the Light not in darkness, as we once were before becoming a Christian. What kinds of speech, attitudes, and actions are to be present in a believer's life according to the end of verses 4, 9, 10 and 14?

4. Verse 14 is believed to be an early Christian baptismal hymn that Paul is quoting and based on a number of OT verses (i.e. Isa. 26:19; 52:1-2 and 60:1). Discuss the importance of this creed when you think about the transformation that happened to you when you came to Christ. Please share your story of what it was like when Christ's light shone into your heart.

5. Of all the subtle ways we can be tricked by our world into talking lightly of evil, what are the easiest traps for you? (Is it coffee break at work? Facebook? Supper table? TV time?) Discuss possible strategies to navigate these tricky areas as a 'person of light'.