

## DARKNESS TO LIGHT



### Notes:

1.

2.

3.

# SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of February 24, 2019

Eph 5:5-14

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This weekend we were reminded to not walk in darkness, but to walk in the light. Compare and contrast the life of those in darkness and the life of those in light.
- 2 Why is the natural inclination of people toward living in darkness?
- 3 Paul warns believers to not "partner" with those who live in darkness. In fact, he warns against even talking about their actions. Why does Paul make this warning? Is there an area in your life where you need to heed this warning? Explain.

## DIGGING DEEPER

1 **1 John 1:5-7, ESV** – <sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

**Rom 13:11-14, ESV** – <sup>11</sup> Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Looking at the passages above and your notes from the sermon, what is our calling? Why are we called to this life style?

What does it mean to 'put on the armor of light' and to 'put on the Lord Jesus Christ'?

Practically speaking, what does it look like to walk in light and not in darkness?

**2** **Matt 5:14-16, ESV** – <sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Not only are we to walk in the light, but we **are** the 'light of the world.' What does that mean to you?

How does this change the way you live your life (i.e. your daily activities)?

**3** **John 3:19-21, ESV** – <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

**Acts 26:15-18, ESV** – And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. <sup>16</sup> But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, <sup>17</sup> delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

Based on the passages above, what is the role of those who are 'lights of the world' (i.e. Christians)?

Why should Christians 'expose' bad works in fellow believers? How should Christians 'expose' these bad works?

How can Christians open the eyes of the lost and turn them from darkness to light? Why is it so difficult for people to leave their darkness and come into the light?

## TAKING IT HOME

Jesus tells us to turn from darkness and turn to the light. Is there darkness in your life that you need to turn from? Spend time confessing this sin to God, repent, and seek His strength to follow a new path in this area of your life. How are you doing, shining your light into the darkness and exposing sin? What steps do you need to take to better shine the light of Jesus into other's lives? Share what God is teaching you with an accountability partner.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 1

Is 2:5

Rom 6:21

Rom 12:2

1 Cor 14:24-25

Col 1:10-13

1 Thess 2:4

1 Pet 2:9