

GOOD TO GREAT



Notes:

1.

2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of February 17, 2019

Eph 5:1-6

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 encouraged to be great Christians, not just good Christians. Compare and contrast a great Christian and a good Christian.
- 2 Based on these descriptions, do see yourself more as a good Christian or a great Christian? How do other people see you?
- 3 Paul talks about three things that make great Christians. Which of these do you, personally, need to improve? Why?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 1 **1 Peter 2:21-23, ESV** – ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

We all imitate someone. We may imitate sports heroes, musicians, people that we admire, and even our parents. How have you imitated someone in your life?

Looking at the passage above, we see that Jesus is our example for how to live. Describe a time when you have been reviled. How did you react? How do you think Jesus would have responded?

How can you be a better imitator of Jesus and not of other people?

2 **John 13:34-5, ESV** – ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

1 John 3:16-18, ESV – ¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Looking at the passages above, how would you distinguish between a person who is imitating Jesus and a person who is imitating someone else?

How does John describe ‘love’? How have you demonstrated Christ-like love to others?

3 **Col 3:5-8, ESV** – ⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

1 Cor 6:18-20, ESV – ¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 Peter 1:14-16, ESV – ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

Based on the passages above, what are we commanded to remove from our lives? Why are we told to remove them? Who benefits from us following this command?

Do you feel this commandment is too restrictive on your life? Why or why not?

TAKING IT HOME

Jesus' command for us is clear. We are to "flee" from sin, run to Him, and become imitators of Him. Which of the sins we discussed today do you struggle with the most? What steps will you take to remove the temptations that lead you to that sin? Spend time confessing this sin to God, repent, and seek His strength to follow a new path in this area of your life. Share what God is teaching you with an accountability partner.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

-
-
-
-
-

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 5: 45-48
Luke 6:27-36
Rom 6:1-4
1 Cor 6:9-11
2 Cor 2:14-16
Gal 5:19
Phil 4:18
Col 3:14
Heb 13:15
1 Peter 4:11
1 John 4:10-11