

Today's passage again emphasizes the idea of 'being like God.' It's verse 1, which says, "Therefore be imitators of God as dear children." If we have realized the grace of salvation, then our heart's desire should be to resemble God. As we delve into Ephesians 5:1-14, I want us to understand more specifically what it means to be like God and how we can achieve it.

First, we must emulate the love of Jesus (verse 2).

In today's passage, as it explains what it means to be like God, verse 2 tells us, "And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us." Here, we learn that to be like God, we must resemble Jesus. And the most crucial aspect of resembling Jesus is to emulate His love. Since God is love (1 John 4:16), Jesus embodies love. Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus demonstrated God's love on earth. In verse 2 (second part), it says, "He gave Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God." Jesus' love is sacrificial, demonstrated by His death on the cross. The mention of "a sweet-smelling aroma" refers to an offering that pleases God. Jesus' love, sacrificing His life for us to please God, is the love we ought to emulate. We should love others with the love of Jesus and live our lives by His love. We can love others with the love of Christ because He loved us first. When we act out of Christ's love, our actions reflect Him.

Second, we must emulate the holiness of Jesus (verses 3-14).

To resemble God, we must emulate the holiness of Jesus. God is holy (Isaiah 43:3, Leviticus 11:44), and naturally, Jesus is holy (Hebrews 4:15). In today's passage, verses 3-4 list six sins, which, upon examining the Scriptures, are all connected to sexual immorality. It warns against engaging in sexual sins through thoughts, words, and actions. Verse 5 identifies these sexual sins as a form of idolatry, which is spiritually detrimental. Engaging in sexual immorality distances us from God. Verses 6-8 instruct us not to be deceived by the world's false reasoning and to avoid immorality in our thoughts, words, and actions. Additionally, verses 11-14 urge us to acknowledge and expose the sins within us and to move towards Jesus, who is the Light, for correction.

True faith is loving God and living to please Him (verses 9-10). Verse 9 states, "For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth." Verse 10 encourages us to test what pleases the Lord, indicating a call to action. We should earnestly consider what brings joy to God and live accordingly.

**Bible
Memorization**

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.” (Ephesians 5:8)

**Bible
Reading**

5/13(Mon)	5/14(Tue)	5/15(Wed)	5/16(Thur)	5/17(Fri)	5/18(Sat)	5/19(Sun)
1 Chronicles 2-4	1 Chronicles 5-6	1 Chronicles 7-8	1 Chronicles 9-11	1 Chronicles 12-14	1 Chronicles 15-17	1 Chronicles 18-21

QT

Quiet Time Passage

5/13(Mon)	5/14(Tue)	5/15(Wed)	5/16(Thur)	5/17(Fri)	5/18(Sat)	5/19(Sun)
1 Kings 16:15-28	1 Kings 16:29-34	1 Kings 17:1-16	1 Kings 17:17-24	1 Kings 18:1-15	1 Kings 18:16-29	1 Kings 18:30-46

**Sharing
Questions**

1. Please share something new you've learned or received grace from through today's message.

2. How can we specifically emulate Jesus' love and apply it to our lives?

How can we emulate Jesus' holiness in practical ways and apply it to our lives?