

EPHESIANS

PART OF SOMETHING BIG



LIVING OUR BEST LIFE

EPHESIANS 5:15-21

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Those who are loved by God live dramatically different than the world around them – they live wisely.

Ephesians 5:15-21

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Make every moment count

~~Make every moment count~~

Make the most of every
moment

~~Make every moment count~~

~~Make the most of every~~

~~moment~~

Celebrate the moments
of your life

Take every thought captive

~~Take every thought captive~~
Take every day captive

~~Take every thought captive~~

~~Take every day captive~~

Seize the day!

Redeem the time

~~Redeem the time~~
Upcycle your errands

~~Redeem the time~~
~~Upcycle your errands~~
Transfigure your to-do's

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Don't Waste Your Time

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How We Walk

How We Walk

- 2:2 – We used to walk following the prince of the power of the air
- 2:10 – God prepared better works for us to walk in
- 4:1 – Walk in a manner suitable to our calling
- 4:17 – No longer in futility
- 5:2 – We walk in love
- 5:8 – As children of light
- 5:15 – Wisely!

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- Assess our use of time

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 - ‘The days are evil’
- Assess our use of time
- Ask God to help us see in every event the God-glorifying opportunities
 - To use our gifts, pursue excellence, display the fruit of the Spirit, and be generous

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Know God's Will

Ephesians 5:15-21

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Psalm 53:1

The fool says in his heart, **“There is no God.”**
They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity;
there is none who does good.

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He has made Himself known!

Ephesians 1:4,7,13

⁴ ...He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless...

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace...

¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit...

Ephesians 3:8-10; 4:2

⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known...

² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love...

But what about...???

I want to know if...

- Show me a sign

I want to know if...

- Show me a sign
- Let the Bible fall open to the perfect verse

I want to know if...

- Show me a sign
- Let the Bible fall open to the perfect verse
- Holy dice

I want to know if...

- Show me a sign
- Let the Bible fall open to the perfect verse
- Holy dice
- What's my horoscope say...

Knowing God's Will

Knowing God's Will

- Know God's word

Knowing God's Will

- Know God's word
- Let the Holy Spirit develop a Godly heart in you

Knowing God's Will

- Know God's word
- Let the Holy Spirit develop a Godly heart in you
- Seek wise counsel

Knowing God's Will

- Know God's word
- Let the Holy Spirit develop a Godly heart in you
- Seek wise counsel
- Look for God's provision

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- Use good judgment

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- Know God's word
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- Use good judgment
- Love God and Move Forward with Confidence

Be Directed By His Spirit

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Lord, help me make the most of
whatever time you give me

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Lord, grow my confidence in
Your love and help me show it

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Religious and Social Context

- Worship of Dionysus – God of Wine/Fertility
 - Ecstatic experiences
 - Music, drunkenness, and sex
 - To get the gods to bless your family, herds, and crops
- Rich and Poor
 - Wine was readily available and abused
- Debauchery – excess, dissipation, waste

Don't be controlled by wine,
be directed by God's Spirit

How Do We Get Filled?

- Paul gives 4 means for filling/expressions:
- Addressing one another with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs
- Singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart
- Giving thanks always for everything to God
- Submitting to one another out of reverence to Christ

Knowing and Speaking Truth

- Addressing **one another** in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
 - Speaking truth to one another
 - Reminding one another
 - Re-focusing one another
 - Encouraging one another
 - Comforting one another
 - In diverse ways

From Our Hearts to God

- Singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart
 - Praising God
 - Celebrating His goodness
 - Recognizing Him as Provider (religious and social)
 - Recognizing His presence in all circumstances
 - Overflowing from our heart

With Thanksgiving

- Giving thanks...
 - Always
 - For everything
 - To God the Father
 - In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

Being Subject to One Another

- Submitting to one another
- Because of Christ

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- Submitting to one another
- Because of Christ
- Because of the gifts He has given

Ephesians 4:11-12

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...

Being Subject to One Another

- Submitting to one another
- Because of Christ
- Because of the gifts He has given
- Because we are part of His body

Ephesians 4:15-16

¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Being Subject to One Another

- Submitting to one another
- Because of Christ
- Because of the gifts He has given
- Because we are part of His body
- As expressions of love to God and each other

The best life is not about
getting more done,
but wisely letting God's
Spirit teach us to live

This Week

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- Dedicate each day to pursuing God
 - If you're fasting tomorrow...
 - Any morning, every morning – pray!

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- Develop more confidence in His plan
 - Know His love, be reminded (Eph. 1-3)

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- Build our confidence in His plan
 - Know His love, be reminded (Eph. 1-3)
- Talk to God and other believers
 - Worship wholeheartedly
 - Live gratefully
 - Use our gifts

Lord, fill us and lead us by Your
Spirit - for our joy and Your
glory