

Men's Bible Study **Calvary Chapel** Cajon

Ephesians 5:1-7

Pray; Read Ephesians 5:1-7

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. Ephesians 5:1-7 is one paragraph division. List below the subject(s) covered in this section.

How would you title this section? Record your titles on the **At a Glance Chart**.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

God and **Jesus (Christ)**; Term of conclusion: *therefore*; Contrast: *but*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Ephesians 5:1-7. Remember, as you mark the words *God* and *Jesus*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to Them.

3. The term of conclusion, *therefore*, is written twice in this section. Record each instance and what the *therefore* is based upon.

4. Although this section of Ephesians includes several behaviors we are to avoid, the section begins with a positive instruction. What does Paul tell us to *be*?

- a. According to the following verses, what characteristics does God want us to *imitate*?

Luke 6:35

Ephesians 4:32

1 Peter 1:15

1 John 4:11

5. Ephesians 5:2 instructs us to *walk in love*. Whose *love* are we to *imitate*?

a. What did Christ do *for us*?

b. Describe the *love* a Christian should *walk in*.

1.) When is it most difficult to *walk in love*?

2.) What have you learned that helps you to *love* when you don't feel like it?

6. Ephesians 5:3 begins with the contrasting word *but*. In contrast to the way we are to *walk*, Paul lists several behaviors in verse 3 which are not acceptable for the believer. What are these three behaviors?

Challenge: List and define these three behaviors using a Bible dictionary

a. What does Paul say about these behaviors?

7. Paul continues, in verse 4, to list three other sinful behaviors. What are they?

a. What do these particular sins deal with?

b. Summarize the warnings about the tongue in:

Matthew 12:34-35

James 3:4-7

c. What does Paul say about these behaviors in Ephesians 5:4?

1.) What does Paul say we are to use our tongues for?

2.) What can we learn about *giving of thanks* and praise from:

Psalm 33:1

Hebrews 13:15

a.) Why is *giving of thanks* a sacrifice?

8. The exhortation of Ephesians 5:5 is stronger than that of previous verses. Paul again lists sinful behaviors. However, rather than listing them as behaviors, he labels the people that commit them, indicating that he is referring to people whose lifestyles can be described by at least one of these sins. What does he call them?

a. What does Paul say about those who live lifestyles in these kinds of sin?

1.) 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 and Galatians 5:19-21 parallel this statement. What do they say?

b. What two things can we learn from the last part of Romans 8:13?

9. What question does Paul ask in Romans 6:21? (use another translation if you have one)

a. How would you answer that question?

- b. What is the ultimate *fruit* (or result) of unforgiven sin?
10. Many could react to the stern statements in the prior verses with apathy. What is Paul's warning in Ephesians 5:6?
- a. What type of words are used to *deceive* the believer (Ephesians 5:6)?
- 1.) What are some examples of *empty words*, which might be used by *deceivers* to try to cause a believer to ignore what Paul has written?
- 2.) What does Romans 16:18 say about these *deceivers*?
- b. What warning against deception do we find in Galatians 6:7?
11. According to Ephesians 5:6b, what will the *sons of disobedience* experience?
- a. What do you think the *wrath of God* is like?
12. Why do you think someone would want people to believe that God will not judge sin?
13. How should we relate to those within the church who live in sinful lifestyles? verse 7

- a. What do the following verses say about our behavior towards those who continually commit these sins?

2 Thessalonians 3:6

1 Corinthians 5:11

CHALLENGE: Is this in contradiction to what Jesus would have done? Didn't Jesus eat with sinners? Answer and explain.

14. How does Galatians 6:1 help us understand how God desires us to behave towards those who continually commit these sins?

15. How have you been encouraged and challenged by these first seven verses of Ephesians 5?

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you,
leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

- 1 Peter 2:21 NIV