

WALKING IN LOVE
IMITATING GOD, PART 1
(Ephesians 5:1-7)

- I. The Basic COMMAND (Eph. 5:1)
 - A. To be IMITATORS of GOD
 - B. To be like BELOVED CHILDREN
 - 1. SECURE and CONTENT in God's love
 - 2. Desiring to BE LIKE Him

- II. The Specific COURSE—Walk in LOVE (Eph. 5:2-7)
 - A. The PATTERN of GENUINE love (5:2)
 - 1. God is the SOURCE (cf. Rom. 5:5)
 - 2. Christ is the EXAMPLE (cf. Rom. 5:8; 8:35, 37)
 - a. He GAVE HIMSELF UP for us
 - b. He was an OFFERING for US
 - c. He was a SACRIFICE to GOD
 - d. His sacrifice was a SWEET SMELLING aroma

B. The PERVERSION of COUNTERFEIT love (5:3-6)

1. Warnings about SIN (5:3)

- a. IMMORALITY
- b. IMPURITY
- c. GREED
- d. Believers must not be GUILTY of such sins

2. Admonition to Christian DECORUM (5:4)

- a. Don't SPEAK in EVIL ways
- b. Don't engage in "FOOLISH TALK"
- c. Don't practice "SARCASTIC RIDICULE"
- d. Instead, express THANKSGIVING (cf. Rom. 1:21)

3. Warnings of JUDGMENT (5:5)

- a. Can be KNOWN with CERTAINTY
- b. No practitioner of EVIL has an INHERITANCE in the kingdom

4. Warnings about DECEPTION (5:6-7)

- a. Some will EXCUSE such behavior
- b. Don't PARTAKE of their FOLLY