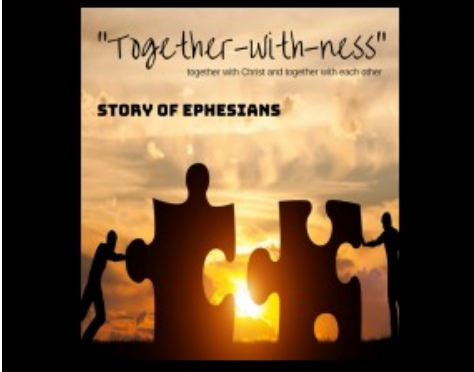


1. Story of Ephesians | 1. page 01

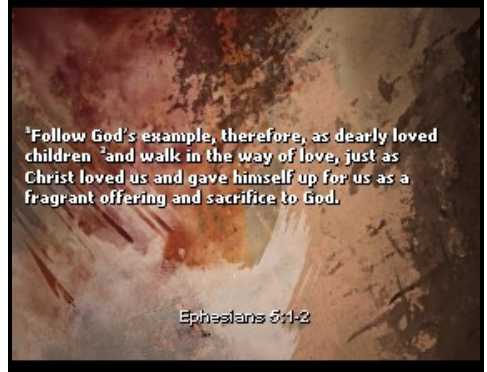


2. The Church Participating in the Story of God



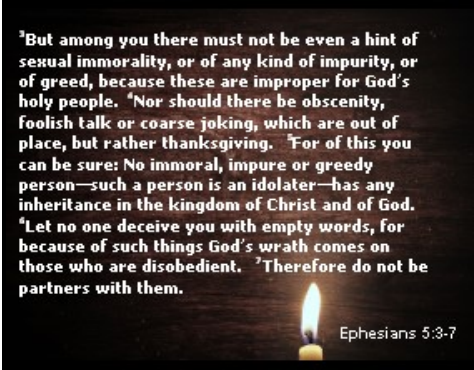
The Church Participating in the Story of God

3. Ephesians 5:1-2 (NI 1. Ephesians 5:1-2)



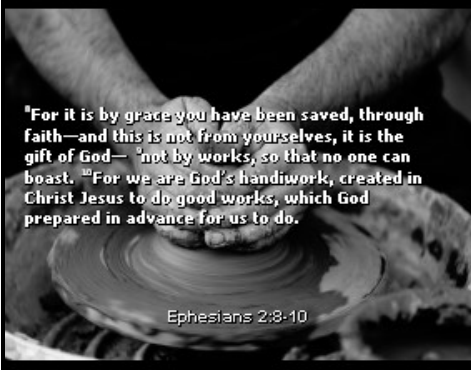
1 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

4. Ephesians 5:3-7 (NI 1. Ephesians 5:3-7)



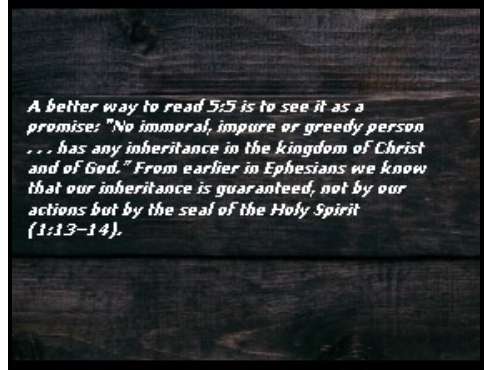
3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. 4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or

5. Ephesians 2:8-10 (NI 1. Ephesians 2:8-10)



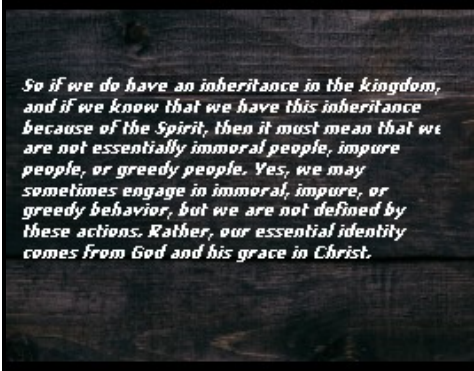
8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus

6. A better way to read 5:5 (1. Page 1)



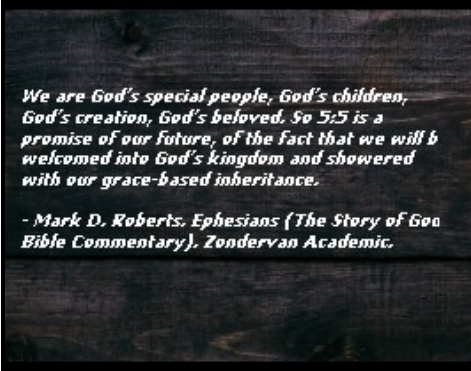
A better way to read 5:5 is to see it as a promise: "No immoral, impure or greedy person ... has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." From earlier in Ephesians we know that our inheritance

6. A better way to read 5:5 (2. Page 2)



So if we do have an inheritance in the kingdom, and if we know that we have this inheritance because of the Spirit, then it must mean that we are not essentially immoral people, impure people, or greedy

6. A better way to read 5:5 (3. Page 3)



We are God's special people, God's children, God's creation, God's beloved. So 5:5 is a promise of our future, of the fact that we will be welcomed into God's kingdom and showered with our grace-

7. Angry God | 1. page 01



7. Angry God | 1. page 01

8. Lion -Black & Whit 1. page 01



9. "We have emphasize 1. Page 1

*"We have emphasized God's love and grace without mentioning that God is saving us not just from our own hurts but also from God's righteous judgment, what Scripture often calls God's wrath. When we hear the word "wrath," we might envision petty fits of rage. But in the biblical understanding, divine wrath is closer to what we would call "righteous indignation." It is emotion that stems from a deep sense of injustice, from hatred of the hurt that sin does to God's creation and his beloved people."*

- Mark D. Roberts. Ephesians (The Story of God Bible Commentary). Zondervan Academic.

"We have emphasized God's love and grace without mentioning that God is saving us not just from our own hurts but also from God's righteous judgment, what Scripture often calls God's wrath. When we hear the

10. SEXUAL ETHICS & 1. Page 1

**SEXUAL ETHICS & THE CROSS**

1. The cross reminds us that what we do with our bodies really matters.
2. We should keep the cross nearby when we talk about sex because most of us need to experience God's love and grace when it comes to our sexuality.
3. We need to keep the cross nearby when it comes to sex because we must remember what love is really all about.

SEXUAL ETHICS & THE CROSS

1. The cross reminds us that what we do with our bodies really matters.

11. One of the essent 1. Page 1

*One of the essential characteristics of sexual immorality is the consuming focus on one's own desires. No matter what we pretend, sex becomes primarily a means for our own gratification rather than a way to love another person in a self-giving way. This is true whether we act on our desires or merely look at another person lustfully, something Jesus calls committing adultery in one's heart (Matt 5:27-28).*

One of the essential characteristics of sexual immorality is the consuming focus on one's own desires. No matter what we pretend, sex becomes primarily a means for our own gratification rather than a way to

11. One of the essent 2. Page 2

*Thus when it comes to sexual expression, the cross offers a necessary corrective to the "empty words" of our culture's sexual ethic. It invites us to discover a love that really is love. It offers forgiveness for our past sins and healing for our wounds. It tells us we are loved by God in a way that excels all other loves. In his love, we begin to discover what God intends for our sexuality.*

- Mark D. Roberts. Ephesians (The Story of God Bible Commentary). Zondervan Academic.

Thus when it comes to sexual expression, the cross offers a necessary corrective to the "empty words" of our culture's sexual ethic. It invites us to discover a love that really is love. It offers forgiveness for our

12. "Every man who k 1. Page 1



*"Every man who knocks on the door of a brothel is looking for God."*

- G. K. Chesterton

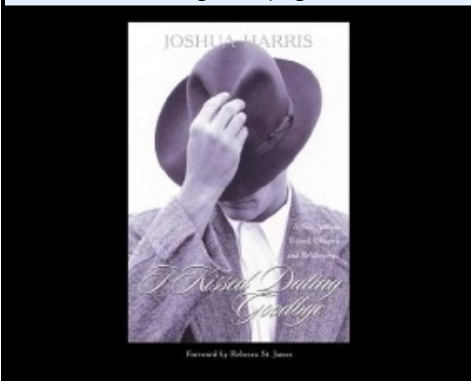
13. "If we find ourselv 1. Page 1

*"If we find ourselves overwhelmed with a constant desire for sexual intimacy, something may be missing from our spiritual life. Unbridled sensuality is often a symptom of deeper longings — the longing to be known, valued, and accepted with a kind of love that only God can give. And rather than merely sublimate our sexual desires, our relationship with God heals them and reorders all of our priorities."*

- Ken Shigematsu. God in My Everything. Zondervan.

"If we find ourselves overwhelmed with a constant desire for sexual intimacy, something may be missing from our spiritual life. Unbridled sensuality is often a symptom of deeper longings — the

14. I\_Kissed\_Dating\_G 1. page 01



15. Joshua Harris at 2 1. page 01

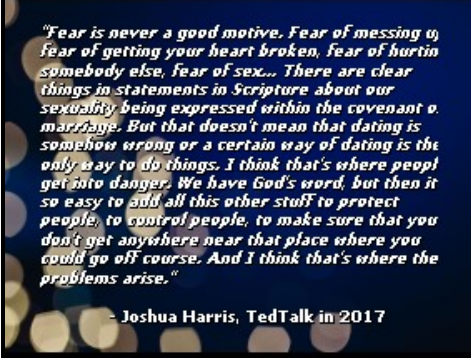




16. Joshua Harris now 1. page 01

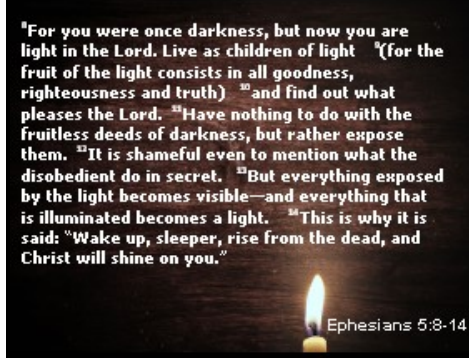


17. "Fear is never a good motive. 1. Page 1



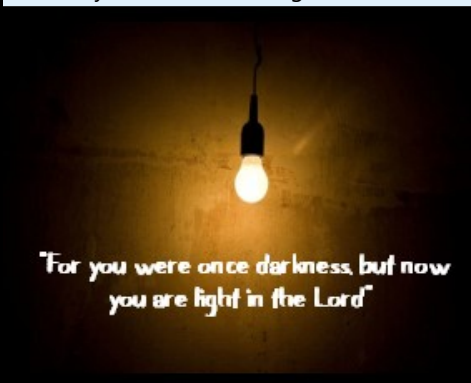
"Fear is never a good motive. Fear of messing up, fear of getting your heart broken, fear of hurting somebody else, fear of sex... There are clear things in statements in Scripture about our sexuality being

18. Ephesians 5:8-14 ( 1. Ephesians 5:8-14



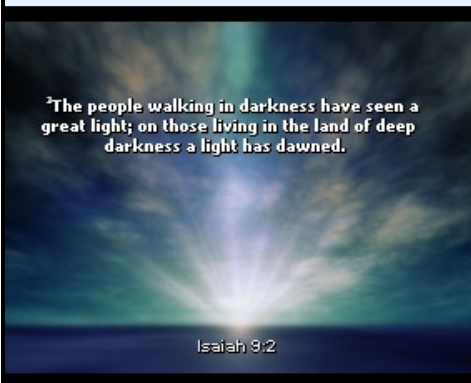
8For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) 10and find out what pleases the Lord. 11Have

19. "For you were once 1. Page 1



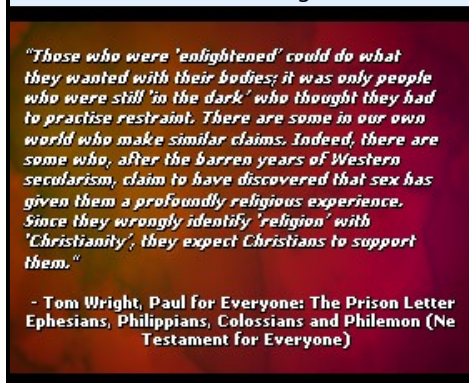
"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord"

20. Isaiah 9:2 (NIV) 1. Isaiah 9:2



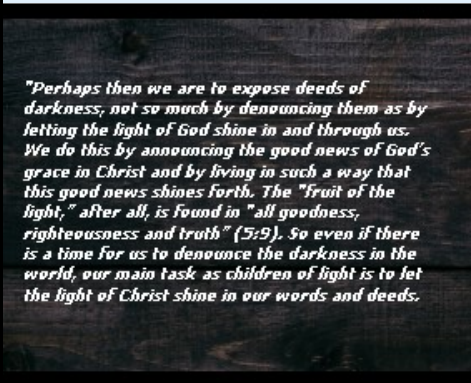
2The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

21. "Those who were 1. Page 1



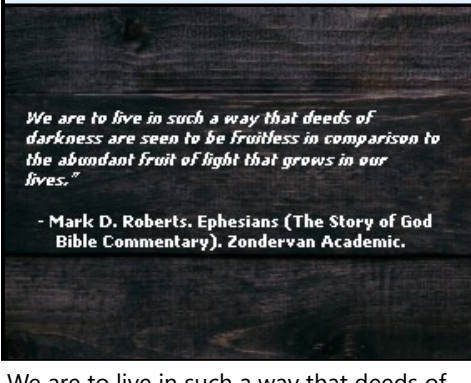
"Those who were 'enlightened' could do what they wanted with their bodies; it was only people who were still 'in the dark' who thought they had to practise restraint. There are some in our own world who

22. "Perhaps then we 1. Page 1



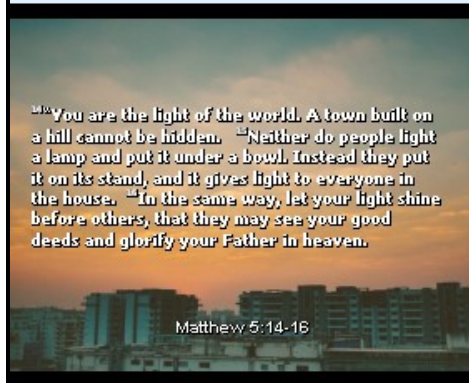
"Perhaps then we are to expose deeds of darkness, not so much by denouncing them as by letting the light of God shine in and through us. We do this by announcing the good news of God's grace in Christ and by

22. "Perhaps then we 2. Page 2

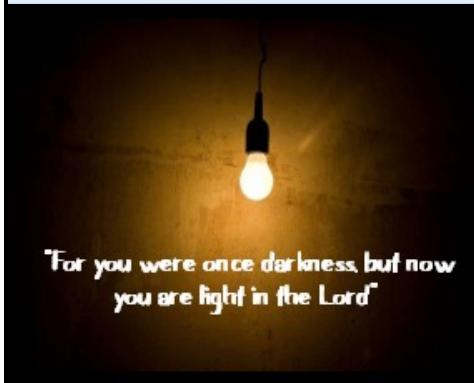


We are to live in such a way that deeds of darkness are seen to be fruitless in comparison to the abundant fruit of light that grows in our lives."

23. Matthew 5:14-16 | 1. Matthew 5:14-16



14You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16In



"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord"