

Sermon Title: A Blueprint for Sexual Purity Part #2

Sermon Text: Ephesians 5:3-6

Getting Started: This is to help you prepare for hearing from God's Word.

- Pray
- Read Ephesians 5:1-14
- What stands out to you from this text?

The Big Idea: This will give you a basic idea of what the message was about today.

If we are going to set our minds on things above, we need to put to death what is earthly in us. We are looking at Ephesians 5 in order to learn what we can from Paul about how we go about doing that.

Discussion Questions: This will help you think through the passage and what you heard in the message.

- What is Paul doing in Ephesians 4-6?
- How does 4-6 connect with 1-3?
- When you look at the put off and put ons in 4:25-5:1 they are all basically one verse a piece. But Paul talks about sexual holiness from 5:3-14. What might that indicate about this subject?
- What contrast does he make between the world and the church in Ephesians 5:3ff?
- Believers need to take these kinds of sin seriously. How are we doing? What might be some evidences that many believers aren't doing that right now?
- When Paul says these sins are not even to be named among us he's not saying that we must pretend that we don't struggle with these kinds of sins. Why is it so important that we emphasize that? How could we get this command wrong if we don't acknowledge that believers do struggle with these temptations?
- What can happen if you know that these kinds of sins are wrong but you don't understand why?
- What is the first reason Paul gives these sins must not be named among us?
- How is that a different place to start than we sometimes do when motivating people to be holy?
- What is a saint and how does that motivate us to fight hard against these kinds of sins?
- What are the two more negative reasons that Paul gives in verses 5 and 6?
- What does having an eternal perspective have to do with fighting against sin? Try to press on this a bit. Where are some other examples in Scripture of how an eternal perspective is essential for understanding how to live life right now?

Sermon Notes: This is a place you can record your own notes and thoughts as you listen to the message today so that you can think about them later.

Preparing for Discipleship: The following questions will help you think about how to use what we discussed as you work at being a biblical friend to others.

- Your friend who professes to be a Christian comes to you and says, I don't see what the big deal is about sexual sin. Live and let live. If it's not hurting anyone, why worry about it? How might you respond from Ephesians 5:3ff?
- Someone comes to you and says, I can't believe we are talking so long about sexual purity at church. Good people don't struggle with these kinds of sins. How would you answer them?
- Someone comes to you and explains, I have failed. I am so impure. And it's not just once. I have tried and tried, but I keep failing. Is there any hope for someone like me? What do you say?
- Sometimes when people talk about sexual purity, it sounds almost like they are saying the main goal is to stay away from sinning sexually. What is right and wrong about that? (Why is it so important to connect Ephesians 1-3 to Ephesians 4-6?)
- Next time we look at this passage, we are going to identify ways it can help someone who is fighting sexual temptation. What specific helps can you see from this passage already?