

Did You Know...Ephesians Chapter 5

February 21, 2025

1. Psalm 19:14 “May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.”¹
2. An opening devotion on CW 494 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* from *Devotional Thoughts on Favorite Hymns*²
3. First, a brief review Ephesians so far:
 - a. We were dead in sin, but are now made alive in Christ
 - b. By grace we have been saved, through faith—and this not from ourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.
 - c. Both Jew and Gentile are brought together into Christ’s Church, which is built on the foundation of the Apostles and prophets having Christ as its Chief Cornerstone
 - d. We have the confidence and freedom to approach God directly through Christ
 - e. We are called to be truly humble with the gifts God has given us and to rejoice with other Christians as they use their gifts—we are not to live as the Gentiles do
 - f. Christ instituted the Divine Ministry to grow, lead and strengthen His Church
4. Did you know some of the key teachings of Ephesians 5?³
 - a. Ephesians 5:1 *Be imitators of God* [Follow God’s example], therefore, as dearly loved children ² and *live a life* [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.
 - i. Love here is:
 - b. 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 coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵ For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a *man* [person] is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.[Or kingdom of the Messiah and God] ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be partners with them.
 - i. How is an immoral or greedy person an idolater?
 - c. ⁸ For 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) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—*for it is light that makes everything visible* [and everything that is illuminated becomes a light]. ¹⁴ This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

 - i. Simul Iustus et Peccator [at the same time righteous and a sinner]
 - ii. Is “Not Guilty” the same as “Innocent”
 - iii. Is. 60:1-2 “Arise, shine for your light has come...”
 - iv. Romans 13:10-12 “...the hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber...”
 - d. ¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.
 - e. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ *Speak* [speaking] to one another with psalms, hymns, and *spiritual songs* [songs from the Spirit]. Sing and make

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music *from* [in] your heart to the Lord,²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- f. **[Instructions for Christian Households]**²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.
 - i. Submit means what?
- g.²² Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as [you do] to the Lord.²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.
- h.²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing [Or having cleansed] her by the washing with water through the word,²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.
 - i. Do husbands ever submit to their wives?
- i.²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.²⁹ After all, no one ever hated *his* [their] own body, but *he* [they] feeds and cares for *it* [their body], just as Christ does the church—³⁰ for we are members of his body.³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”[Gen. 2:24]
- j.³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.³³ However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.
 - i. Marriage counseling tips: Wives want love; husbands want respect

5. Here are some more examples from 52 Hebrew Words Every Christian Should Know.⁴

- a. **חסד** (hesed) - unfailing love, see Psalms 118:1 “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his **love** endures forever”
- b. **אור** (or) - light, see Psalms 27:1 “The Lord is my **light** and my salvation...”
- c. **צדקה** (tzedekah) - righteousness, see Proverbs 21:21 “He who pursues **righteousness** and love finds life, prosperity [**righteousness**], and honor.”

6. Did you notice any connections between today’s scripture readings and today’s lesson?

- a. Genesis 45:3-8a, 15
- b. Psalm 103
- c. Romans 12:14-21
- d. Luke 6:27-38

CW 414 *I Leave All Things to God’s Direction*⁵, verse 2

God knows what must be done to save me,
His love for me will never cease.
Upon his hands he did engrave me
with purest gold of loving grace.
His will supreme must ever be:
What pleases God, that pleases me.

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7. Other Resources

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia. *The Hebrew-English Interlinear ESV Old Testament*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, © 2014.

The Iverson-Norman Associates. *The Zondervan Parallel New Testament in Greek and English*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1975.

8. Endnotes/Attributions

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2. Robertson, James H. *Devotional Thoughts on Favorite Hymns*. 2nd ed. Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 2018, pp145-147.

3. Panning, Armin. *The People's Bible: Galatians Ephesians*. 2nd ed. Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 2000, pp144-160.

4. Abramson, Dave. *52 Hebrew Words Every Christian Should Know*. Bloomington: Christian Art Gifts. (Available through Amazon.com)

5. Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, *Christian Worship A Lutheran Hymnal*. Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 1993.