Brown CG Zoom Session 4/26/2020 Ephesians 5:1-20 Obedience to Following Christ

Obedience to Following Christ – Ephesians 5:1-20

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. 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 person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶ Let 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. 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 It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. 13 But everything exposed by the light becomes 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." 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. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Key Points:

- Central theme is Obedience to the example of Christ
- Believers should imitate God and his characteristics
- Believers are to find out what pleases God
- Believers should not take part in sin and actually expose it
- Try and understand the will of God

Group Questions:

- 1. In verses 1-6, while specific sins are listed as not to do's, what is the main theme or idea that we are to take away as Christians?
- 2. Discuss Vs 6, what is the deception we are warned about?
- 3. What is the danger mentioned in verse 8 about our character and risks?
- 4. In verse 10, we have an interesting phrase about "Find out what pleases God"; how does this verse strike you? Does it seems rather open? How do we go about satisfying this?
- 5. While we are taught to distance ourselves from sin and darkness, what does verse 11 also require of us? How do we do this? Does this reference personal sin? Others sin? All sin?
- 6. Vs 12 has some interesting points about sin, in essence what is it saying we should do?