



# ENGAGE GUIDE

## SUNDAY'S SERMON // SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13 EPHESIANS 5:15-21 // WALK WISELY

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

*Use these questions in your community (family, life group, ABF, etc.) to apply this sermon in your life.*

1. Pastor Randy shared with us a Barna study that looked at Christianity in 2000 and 2020. In 2000, 45% of people identified as Practicing Christians, 35% as Non-practicing Christians and 20% as Non-Christian. In 2020 those percentages changed to 25%, 43% and 32% respectively. Do those numbers surprise you? How have you seen a shift in how people identify as Christians, practicing or non-practicing, or not as Christians at all anymore?
2. In your own words, what does it look like to be a Practicing Christian? What do you see in Ephesians 5:15-21 that would inform your answer?
3. Wise people slow down and make intentional decisions. This is one way to "make the most of every opportunity." Verse 17 also cautions us to not be foolish but instead understand what the Lord's will is. How have you seen this play out in your own life? Have you made a hasty decision that turned out to be foolish? When have you stepped back, evaluated your options, gone to the Lord to ask for direction and made a decision out of wisdom?
4. Repeatedly through this passage and the ones preceding it, we see instruction on being filled with the Spirit. Why is reliance on the Spirit for wisdom and discerning the Lord's will and right living so important? How does the Spirit help you do these things that you could not do on your own?
5. For deeper study, read Philippians 1:27, Colossians 1:10, 1 Thessalonians 2:12, and Ephesians 4:1. What are the marks of a life lived worthy of the gospel? What are the blessings that go hand-in-hand with a life like that?
6. Are there Non-Practicing Christians or Non-Christians in your Oikos who are watching the way you walk? Pray for each other that you would be filled with the Spirit to guide your life and for those who are watching your life that they would be drawn to Christ.

## NEXT SUNDAY // SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20 EPHESIANS 5:22-33

### **SCRIPTURE: READING ABOUT GOD**

*Take time to read and become familiar with this passage before hearing it preached next Sunday.*

- What words were used/repeated/emphasized in this passage?
- Where else in Scripture are these words described/illustrated?
- How does this passage describe God?
- In your own words, summarize this passage, trying to identify the main theme.

### **PRAYER: COMMUNICATING WITH GOD**

*Allow your responses to these questions to affect your prayers this week for...*

- Yourself
- The Church
- Your Oikos