

Small Group Study Guide- Ephesians 5:1-2
Walk in Love Part One

“Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.”

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

1) Imitate our Heavenly Father and walk in love. (Eph. 5:1)

- Imitation is a form of flattery. We tend to imitate those we want to be like. Can you think of and share a story of how you imitated someone? Looking back, why did you imitate this person? (Matthew 16:24-25)
- We are defined as “little beloved children of God.” What thoughts come to mind when you envision being a “child of God” and “beloved” by Him? (Ephesians 2:4-10)
- Think back to the sermon and the “Russian Dolls” analogy. We often speak of being the hands and feet of Jesus! Compare Jesus words from John 14:8-11 with our identity in Christ according to Romans 8:10, thoughts?

2) Walk in love means walk like Jesus. (Eph. 5:2)

- To love God is to imitate Him. The only way this is done is when we follow God’s example in Jesus Christ. How can we apply this line of reasoning in light of Colossians 1:15-23?
 - What words stick out to you from this passage?
 - “Firstborn” (*prototokos*) is where we get our word “prototype.” How does this help us understand our need to model Jesus? Compare this line of reasoning with Philippians 2:5-11.
- Mark 12:29-31 is Jesus’ Great Commandment to His followers. How can we be assured that we are living out this commandment? How do God’s Word and our Christian Community play vital roles in this process?
- Hebrews 12:1-2 gives further insight into walking in love. Explain how Jesus is the “Founder” and “Perfecter” of our faith. How have you personally experienced this truth?