



Ephesians 5:1-2

Made for More - Sept 21, 2025

Message Recap

As we begin Chapter 5 of Ephesians, Paul pauses to identify an important shift. Chapter 4 sounded like the rulebook: don't lie, don't steal, don't let bitterness take root. But in chapter 5 Paul pivots. The Christian life isn't just about subtraction — less sin. It's about addition — more love, more likeness, more of God's DNA showing up in your everyday walk. Paul sums it up in two words: **imitate** and **walk**.

- Imitate God as dearly loved children.
- Walk in love as Christ loved us.

Christianity is not a sprint or a single burst of effort, but steady steps of sacrificial love. We imitate God because we already belong to Him, and we walk in love because Jesus showed us what real love looks like — not a feeling, but a verb, a sacrifice, an aroma pleasing to God.

Icebreaker / Personal Reflection

- Icebreaker:

Share with the Group the first car you owned, and any fun or interesting memories you have of learning to drive, or teaching a child to drive.

- Reflection:

-What was one insight, illustration, or principle from the message that really stood out to you or challenged you?

Discussion Questions

- **How have you experienced seasons of your faith feeling more like a list of rules than a relationship? What changed that for you?**
- **Jesus never seemed hurried, even in urgent situations. What does it look like for you to “walk” at His pace instead of running through life?**

- **What's the difference between approaching the Christian life by "managing sin" vs. "mimicking God"?**
- **Paul points to Christ's sacrifice as the ultimate example of love. What is one area in your life right now where loving well might cost you something?**
- **Paul describes Christ's love as a "fragrant offering." What kind of "aroma" do you hope people experience when they're around you?**

For Additional Study

John 13:34–35 (NIV)

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know you are my disciples, if you love one another."

- Why do you think Jesus ties our witness to love?
- How have you seen sacrificial love draw someone closer to Christ?

1 John 3:16–18 (NIV)

"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters... let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

- How does this definition of love challenge cultural views of love today?
- What's one way you can put love into action this week?