

# **Ephesians: Christian Ethics**

## **Truth Versus the World – Ephesians 5:6-14**

### ***Message Discussion Guide***

#### **Scripture & Message Review**

Read Isaiah 5:20, 1 Corinthians 3:19-20, Colossians 2:8.

- What are some issues the Bible is clear on, yet the world often gets wrong?
- What leads the world to form views contrary to the plain truth of Scripture?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 1 Corinthians 15:17-19.

- How is the Christian faith built on an event?
- How does this basis make Christianity different from most other religions?

Read Ephesians 5:6, 1 Timothy 6:20.

- How does the world decide what is right and what is wrong? What is the basis of their views? Name three or four distinct foundations the world would stand on. Why are those sources of truth faulty?
- Is God narrow-minded? What is this a good or bad thing?

Read John 17:17, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Jude 3.

- What is the source of truth?
- What does it mean when we say that the Scriptures are sufficient?
- Can Biblical truth be appended? Why or why not?

Read Romans 12:2.

- How does this verse tell us we can best know right from wrong?

#### **Big Question**

- How can we boldly shine the light without creating so much shame and resentment that people cannot also see us shine the gospel light?

#### **Bonus Question**

- If you had a neighbor who was homosexual and who resented Christianity and the church because he at least perceived that they had mistreated him, how would you go about having a gospel witness in his or her life?

## Scripture for Discussion Questions

Isaiah 5:20 | Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness, who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. (CSB)

Romans 12:2 | Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God. (CSB)

1 Corinthians 3:19–20 | For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God, since it is written, He catches the wise in their craftiness; and again, The Lord knows that the reasonings of the wise are futile. (CSB)

Colossians 2:8 | Be careful that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit based on human tradition, based on the elements of the world, rather than Christ. (CSB)

1 Corinthians 15:3–4 | For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, (CSB)

1 Corinthians 15:17–19 | And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Those, then, who have fallen asleep in Christ have also perished. If we have put our hope in Christ for this life only, we should be pitied more than anyone. (CSB)

Ephesians 5:6 | Let no one deceive you with empty arguments, for God's wrath is coming on the disobedient because of these things. (CSB)

1 Timothy 6:20 | Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding irreverent and empty speech and contradictions from what is falsely called knowledge. (CSB)

John 17:17 | Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. (CSB)

2 Timothy 3:16–17 | All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (CSB)

Jude 3 | Dear friends, although I was eager to write you about the salvation we share, I found it necessary to write, appealing to you to contend for the faith that was delivered to the saints once for all. (CSB)