



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE: 10/02/2022
DISCUSSION DATE: 10/09/2022
TEXT: EPHESIANS 5:15-21

WISDOM FOR WALKING THROUGH DARK DAYS

- I. WALK WISELY (vs. 15)
 - A. Our activity (vs. 15a)
 - B. Our attention (vs. 15b)
- II. WATCH OUT (vs. 16)
 - A. Redeem the time (vs. 16a)
 - B. The days are evil (vs. 16b)
- III. UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF THE LORD (vs. 17)
- IV. PROPER WELFARE (vs. 18)
- V. PROPER WORSHIP AND PRAISE (vss. 19-21)
 - A. Our praise (vs. 19)
 - B. Our prayers (vs. 20)
 - C. Our posture (vs. 21)

FOR CONFERENCING

1. **Read Ephesians 5:15.** According to verse 15a, how are you to walk? Connect Paul's previous admonition to walk in the light to his instruction in verse 15 to walk in wisdom. How does walking in the light help us to walk in wisdom? Paul says, "walk circumspectly" What does circumspectly mean? Can you illustrate or give an example of how a Christian would do that (walk circumspectly)...or what would that "look like?" Can you give an example of how a Christian would not be walking in that way?

2. **Read Ephesians 5:15-21.** Notice that Paul contrasts two different ways of life in verses 15-21 (what to do vs. what not to do). List and prepare to discuss all the characteristics he gives for each way of life.

3. **Read vs. 16.** What does "redeeming the time" mean? Why are we to redeem the time? Give examples of how we can do this. (what would it "look like"?).

4. **Read vs. 17.** According to the verse, what will keep us from being unwise? How can we understand the will of God?

5. **Read vs. 18.** What does it mean to be "filled with the Spirit?" (Hint: It must be comparable in some way to the contrasting idea of being "drunk with wine.") - Are all believers filled with the Spirit all the time? How do you know? - What hinders us from being "filled with the Spirit?" (See Galatians 5:16-26.) - What are some specific examples of Spirit-filled behavior according to the context?

6. **Read verses 19-21.** Why do you think Paul brings up singing spiritual songs to one another and giving thanks to God in the context of directing us to walk in wisdom during evil days? Why also does he admonish us to submit to one another in this context?