

## *Sermon Notes -- Themes from Ephesians*

### “Children of Light”—Part I – Ephesians 5:3-4

#### I. Introduction.

##### A. How we think and act.

1. Comments
2. James Boice
3. Three points on how we affect the world around us.
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
4. John Stott writes about it this way, “The theme of these chapters (Ephesians) is the integration of Christian experience (What we \_\_\_\_\_), Christian theology (What we \_\_\_\_\_), and Christian ethics (How we \_\_\_\_\_).”

##### B. Ephesians Ch. 4 – the contrast between two types of behavior.

1. Ephesians 5:3-4

#### II. Exposition

##### A. No hint of wickedness.

1. Paul pinpoints six intolerable vices.
2. No sexual immorality, verse 3.
  - a. Greek is *porneia*
3. No impurity, verse 3.
  - a. Background on Ephesus

##### B. We are being called to something higher.

1. City on a Hill – remembering two overarching terms that depict modern culture.
  - a. R\_\_\_\_\_

b. N\_\_\_\_\_

##### 2. Philip Ryken

3. Both relativism and narcissism are key players in degrading Paul’s remarks.

##### C. Frank talk on porneia

1. Statistics
2. The problem is in the church
  - a. Recent “Christianity Today” magazine article.

#### III. Practical Christian living.

##### A. Visual

1. Difference between men and women.
2. Paul’s remarks impress upon men to be careful about their eyes while women are to be careful how they dress.
3. Contrast between being in marriage and out of marriage.

##### B. Who is our supreme example?

1. Ephesians 5:1

#### IV. Points for Reflection

A. If God is the one we should imitate, then what culture says is normal should not be a factor in what is considered normal for the saints.

B. Men be careful where your eyes lead you, and women be careful in how you dress.

C. Whether male or female, beware of the secret life. No matter what manner of sin is involved, your spiritual life is being polluted. It is extremely difficult to pull out of a secret life without confession to the brethren and establishing rigorous accountability.