

## Undivided | Walking the Walk | Ephesians 5:1-20

### GET READY | How can I come prepared?

1. Watch the message if you can. You can find the latest message on [YouTube](#) or our [website](#).
2. Read Ephesians 5:1-20 on your own. Jot down any observations or questions you have.

### CATCH UP | How are we doing?

If you could time travel to any period in history, where would you go and why?

### DIG IN | What's God saying in Scripture?

Quiet your hearts, pray and then read Ephesians 5:1-20 out loud. Reflect on the passage together. If necessary, use some of the questions below to jumpstart your conversation.

#### The Power of Gratitude in our Fight Against Sin

1. Paul emphasizes gratitude twice in verses 5 and 20 of this passage.
2. Is it surprising that in a passage about sexual ethics, Paul does this? How do you think gratitude toward God leads to holiness?
3. What would it look like for you to amplify gratitude this week?

#### Wisdom, Wrath and Singing

1. What are some of the "empty words" about sexuality in our culture? Why do you think Paul reminds us about God's wrath?
2. Paul emphasizes wisdom a lot in this passage. What does it look like for Christians to not just be right, but *wise*?
3. How does passionate singing about God help us grow in wisdom?

### WIND DOWN | How can we encourage one another?

In verse 15, Paul says "look carefully at how you walk." If appropriate for your group, it may be a good idea to invite people to do some honest self-reflection together. Bring any confessions of sin or pain into the healing light of Jesus' love and holiness.

# A Note from Kelly Santiago

DCC'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH ASSISTANT

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Hi Life Groups!

Madison Area Jail Ministry (MAJM) has reached out to Door Creek Church to invite us to participate in two opportunities for compassionate service.

## 1. CHRISTMAS CARDS

The first opportunity is to write personalized Christmas cards for Dane County Jail residents. Those in jail need to know God's love and through writing Christmas card messages, they will know!

**LEADERS:** If your group is interested in participating, please send me an email (Kelly Santiago, [ksantiago@doorcreekchurch.org](mailto:ksantiago@doorcreekchurch.org)) letting me know how many cards your group will make.

**Deadline to have the cards to me (or at the Welcome Center of your campus) is November 19.**

Here are guidelines on making the cards. Please be sure to follow these, as each year 20% of the cards cannot be used because they don't meet these requirements. I've highlighted the main issues they see.

### Christmas Card Guidelines

- Use Christmas cards with NO glitter, sequins, cardboard flaps, ribbons, or wood.
- Printing is preferred to cursive because most of the jail residents are under the age of 30 and most find it difficult to read cursive.
- Write a heartfelt greeting of at least a couple sentences. It might be helpful to imagine a grandchild, niece or nephew or cousin and what kind of message they may want to receive as they spend this Christmas in jail. Share God's love and offer prayers of hope, joy and the peace of the Christmas season.
- Please sign the card, but with your first name only.
- Do not include any identifiable information such as the name of your church or your last name.
- No envelopes are needed because only cards are distributed.

Even writing one card is important because there are about 650 men and women in the Dane County Jail for whom cards are needed. **Your Christmas card may be the only one the person will receive.**

## 2. WINTER CLOTHING

They are also seeking gently used winter coats, hats, gloves or boots for recently-released jail residents. They are accepting donations for winter coats and winter wear in men's, women's and unisex size L, XL, XXL, 3X, 4X. **Donations need to be received by November 19. You can arrange to give them to me or drop off at the Welcome Center of your campus.**

**Thank you for making a difference!**