

MESSAGE APPLICATION GUIDE

Jeff Bucknam



Ephesians 5:1-6

APPLICATION

Pastor Jeff opened the sermon by telling of his experience working with chickens and described how they were formally caged and now are free. He told us that we too were once "caged" and are now free and encouraged us to be who we are in Christ - to be imitators of our heavenly father.

1. We are called to be imitators of Christ, as seen in Ephesians 5:1. How do we imitate Christ?
 - a. How can we live a life of love?
 - b. Is there somewhere I am deceiving myself when it comes to loving God or my neighbor?
 - c. Pastor Jeff said don't use the word love if you're not willing to give. What is one way that you can show Christ's love this week to your neighbor?

2. In verse 3, we see that as holy ones, we are called to reject unholiness. What are some specific sins that we must rid ourselves of?

3. As people of God, we are called to talk about the many blessing of God. Christians are marked by their words of thanksgiving. As Pastor Jeff pointed out from God's Word, we must give thanks in all circumstances as we remind ourselves that God is good and will work out his goodness. What difficult/challenging circumstances in your life can thank God for right now?

4. As pastor Jeff closed his sermon, he asked us if we are persisting in unrepentance: sexually immoral, greed, filthiness, and/or speaking foolish talk. Are you persistently falling into these sins? If so, confess to the Lord (and then your small group) these sins and repent now - do not wait! Otherwise, remember that we are "Good News" people who are dearly loved children of God.

Today is an important day in the life of Harvest Bible Chapel. Pastor Jeff Bucknam begins as our new Lead Teaching Pastor. Together as a church family, let's pray and ask the Lord for His provision. And we believe that Pastor Jeff is the answer to those prayers. We thank God for His faithfulness to His church.