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❖ **SERMON NOTES** ❖

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Sunday, December 30, 2018

**“THE LIGHT OF NEW BEGINNINGS”**

(Ephesians 5:1-16)

The Bible often describes our relationship to God as our “walk with God”. On the threshold of a new year, what things should characterize our walk?

*“For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps” (1 Peter 2:21, CSB).*

**1. Walk in \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 5:1-2).**

**2. Walk in \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 5:8).**

**3. Walk in \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 5:15–16).**

*“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:15–16, ESV).*

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**“THE LIGHT OF NEW BEGINNINGS”**

(Ephesians 5:1-16)

*“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few” (Matthew 7:13–14, ESV).*

*“For if, having escaped the world’s impurity through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in these things and defeated, the last state is worse for them than the first. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy command delivered to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb: A dog returns to its own vomit, and, “A washed sow returns to wallowing in the mud” (2 Peter 2:20-22, CSB).*

*“a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God” (Genesis 6:9).*

*“Mankind, he has told each of you what is good and what it is the Lord requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 5:8, CSB).*

*“For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps” (1 Peter 2:21, CSB).*

**1. Walk in Love (Ephesians 5:1-2).**

*“And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 5:2, ESV).*

*“Knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free” (Ephesians 6:8, ESV).*

*“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers” (1 John 3:16, ESV).*

## **2. Walk in Light (Ephesians 5:8).**

*“At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8, ESV).*

*“If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth” (1 John 1:6, ESV).*

*“If we claim that we experience a shared life with him and continue to stumble around in the dark, we’re obviously lying through our teeth—we’re not living what we claim” (1 John 1:6, The Message).*

*“all that is good and right and true” (Ephesians 5:9).*

*“Shine like the sun in the kingdom of [your] Father” (Matthew 13:43, ESV).*

## **3. Walk in Wisdom (Ephesians 5:15–16).**

*“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:15–16, ESV).*