

Discussion Questions

Talk This Way

Ephesians 5:3-14

(How do you introduce yourself when you first meet someone? What do you share about yourself? Why?)

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness [greed] must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk [morologos – moron logos] nor crude joking [eutrapelia–“levity”], which are out of place [literally: “do not fit”], but instead let there be thanksgiving. — Ephesians 5:3-4

The above passage points out what we should avoid and the things that don't fit with all that God desires for us.

- When you feel tempted toward that which Scripture reveals we should “put off,” what tempts you toward any of these things? What are you longing or striving for when you fall into them?
- Does your entering into them satisfy the longing you seek to fulfill by participating in them?
- Do lists of dos and don'ts, rights and wrongs help you keep from sin?
- What helps keep you from sin?

In this sermon, a movie clip from *Blood Diamonds* is shown. In the clip, Dia had forgotten who he was and his father had to remind him.

- Have you ever lost site of who you truly are and needed to be reminded? If so, who helped remind you of who you truly are? How did they do it?
- Is there any part of you that currently feels you've lost site of who you truly are? If so, explain.
- If someone asked you, “Who is (insert your name here)?” How would you answer? What defines you or makes you who you are?

Think about some passages of Scripture you might know that help us understand who we are according to God.

- What do think God thinks about you?
- Who does God say you are?
- Do you ever struggle with judging yourself or others according to your own judgment rather than God's?

In this sermon, Peter told the history of how the Jews lost the knowledge of how to pronounce God's name because of their fear and judgment. At times, we all can lose site of God and who He is because of our own fear and judgment. But God desires that we replace our judgment with His Judgment, which is Love.

“You are a new man, created in the likeness of God. You have a new name, and it's also Christ's name. So if it doesn't fit on the risen Christ, it doesn't fit on you.” It's not that you can't say the name which you have made for yourself; it's not that you can't confess your sin, it's that you can't receive that name for it's not who you truly are...[And about others] It is not that you can't name the crap that people produce it's just that you can't name people with their crap.”—Peter Hiett

- What names have been put on you by yourself or others?
- What judgments have you or others made about you that God hasn't made?
- Can you think of any names or judgments that you've put on others that you'd like to ask forgiveness for?

In Ephesians 1:32 Paul wrote: “Christ is raised and seated above every name that is named.”

In Ephesians 3:14 he wrote: “The Father names every family on earth.”

Take a moment to thank God that His Judgment is victorious over all our bad judgments & His Judgment is Love.

**These questions were created by Kimberly Weynen*