

SERMON PREP GUIDE FEBRUARY 25, 2018

READING GOD'S WORD

Ephesians 4:30–5:2

DISCUSSING GOD'S WORD

- 1. How does our passage this week tie into our verse last week? What words does Paul use to show his continuation of thought?
- 2. In whom are we sealed for the day of redemption? Re-read Ephesians 1:11-14.
- 3. What sins does Paul list that grieve the Holy Spirit? Take some time to define those sins.
- 4. Instead of telling the believers what not to do, Paul focuses in on what they should do in verses 32 and following. What does he instruct? Take a moment to flesh those out.
- 5. Paul gives a reasoning for the "why" behind these specific instructions. What is his reasoning? In other words, whose example should we be following?

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

- 1. How would you describe the hope that you have, as a believer, in being sealed with the Holy Spirit? What is the day of redemption?
- 2. Based on what you have learned so far in Ephesians, why would these specific sins grieve the Holy Spirit of God?
- 3. How does knowing that we are forgiven in Christ because He gave Himself for us propel you to walk in love towards others?
- 4. Where does your life not imitate God? What are next steps for you in repentance and seeking forgiveness of God (and others) in those areas?

PRAYING GOD'S WORD

- » Thank you, Father, for sealing us with the Holy Spirit who is the guarantee of our inheritance, to the praise of Your glory.
- » Pardon us, Lord, when we fall into temptation and sin against You, grieving Your Holy Spirit.
- » Grant us Your strength to put away these sins that we may put on the new self and be imitators of God.
- » Empower us to walk in love toward others because Christ first gave Himself up for us.