

## Put the darkness in the rear-view mirror and walk in the light!

### 1) Walk as children of light, 5:8-10.

- We are to no longer live in our own light but in the light that God gives us, cf. Isaiah 50:10-11
- When we live under God's "grow lamp," we will yield God's fruit.
- When we live in God's light we will find out (learn) and confirm (prove) what is acceptable to the Lord, cf. John 3:21.

If we think we "know" then likely we don't.

### 2) Walking as children of light, we will expose what is unfruitful and shameful, 5:11-13.

- Walking as children of light pulls us away from our frame of reference (the unfruitful works of darkness) and we will see our world through the same lens as God (all goodness and righteousness and truth).
- Walking as children of light we will walk in the light, and the light shows things for what they are (we expose the unfruitful works of darkness).
- As we walk in the light, we will see that the light first shines in and on our own lives so this exposure happens first in us or it is not happening.

CONCLUSION: So how about it, 5:14?  
Will we wake up and walk in the light?



### What is walking in the light?

Walking in the light means ...

- Living in loving obedience to God.

(John 14:15 GW) If you love me, you will obey my commandments.

- Trusting God completely.

(Proverbs 3:5-6) Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

- Fully embracing God's plan and purpose for our lives.

(Romans 8:28) And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

- Living the truth consistently. The truth is our life and our light.

(John 3:21) But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.

(Hebrews 5:14 NIV84) But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

### What we don't understand about evil ...

- Much evil as God would see it isn't really that bad in our eyes. In fact apart from God we often only see the more overt acts of evil - murder, rape, injustice in employment opportunities, abortion, etc. We forget that the very first evil was "merely" opposition to God when it came to a decision on which trees in the garden Adam and Eve could eat from. So before we separate ourselves too far from evil, we need to ask: **Who is deciding? Who says what's evil?**

### What is the darkness?

Darkness is lighting our own fires, walking in our own light ...

- Formulating our own philosophies and religions.
- Living in our own light.
- Neither living in reverence to nor obedience to God.
- Not trusting God.
- Not depending upon God.

(Isaiah 50:10-11 GW) Who among you fears the LORD and obeys his servant? Let those who walk in darkness and have no light trust the name of the LORD and depend upon their God. 11 But all of you light fires and arm yourselves with flaming torches. So walk in your own light and among the torches you have lit. This is what you will receive from me: You will be tormented.

By default people prefer darkness over the light ...

(John 3:16-20 GW) God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. 17 God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but to save the world. 18 Those who believe in him won't be condemned. But those who don't believe are already condemned because they don't believe in God's only Son. 19 This is why people are condemned: The light came into the world. **Yet, people loved the dark rather than the light because their actions were evil.** 20 People who do what is wrong hate the light and don't come to the light. They don't want their actions to be exposed.