



PART 1

Three Pillars for Every Home

DECEMBER 29 & 30, 2012 • MARK SPURLOCK

1. _____
Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:1–2*
 - _____ ?

2. _____
But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, **but rather thanksgiving**. *Ephesians 5:3–4*
And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. *Colossians 3:17*
 - _____ ?

3. _____
For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. *Ephesians 5:8–10*
 - _____ ?And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. *Hebrews 10:24–25*



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Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Colossians 4:6. Which of the “pillars” from last weekend’s sermon do you most need to work on building into your relationships?

How does keeping your “conversation full of grace and seasoned with salt” help your relationships?

In what relationship are you most struggling to keep your words “full of grace”?

Thank God today for His concern for your relationships. Talk to Him about the relationship you’re struggling most in. Pray that God will use the study this week to help you grow and heal that relationship.

Tuesday

Happy New Year! Please read Ephesians 5:1–2. How has Christ loved you? How has His love impacted your life?

What do you learn from God’s example of grace towards you that you can apply to your relationships?

How could showing grace impact your relationships right now?

Thank God today for His grace for you. Pray that you will reflect His grace to others in your life.

Wednesday

Please read Ephesians 5:3–4 & Colossians 3:17. Take a moment today and write down 10 things you’re grateful for:

How does gratitude impact your outlook on life? How does it impact your outlook on your relationships?

How could you build the pillar of gratitude into your “castle”?

Take time to thank God for the 10 things you wrote down in today’s devotion. Pray that you will be a person characterized by gratitude. Pray that gratitude will impact and build your relationships.

Thursday

Please read Ephesians 5:8–10 & Hebrews 10:24–25. Think honestly about your life right now and write down three habits (good or bad) that are part of your life. What effect are these having on your life and relationships right now?

The New Year is a great time to think building new habits into your life. What godly habits would you like to see God develop in you this year?

How will these habits help your relationships?

Thank God today for His power that enables you to change. Talk to Him about the habits you want to build into your life this year. Ask Him to give you the faith to rely on His strength to change and the continuing desire to change.

Friday

Please read Philippians 2:1–5. Read this passage through several times today, perhaps in a few different versions. (www.biblegateway.com is a good resource). What do you learn from Jesus’ example about how to treat others?

Write down one thing you learn in Jesus’ example that you want to imitate in your relationships and interactions today.

Thank God today for the example that Jesus provides. Pray that you will look to Jesus for your example of how to treat others. Ask Him to give you the courage to live like Him.

Saturday

Please read Psalm 27:4–5. Meditate on these verses today. Pray that God will fulfill them in you and that you will be willing to follow Him.

Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that as we continue to talk about godly relationships we will all be willing to grow willing into God’s ambassadors in our relationships.



Memory Verse

Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. *Psalm 25:4–5*