

LIGHTHOUSE COVENANT YOUTH FELLOWSHIP
ONLINE SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY
Paul's Wake Up Call
Ephesians 5:14-18

This a very short and quick bible study to make sure you are fed the spiritual food of God's Word. You are being provided this online lesson due to the current Shelter-In-Place. I pray that as a young person, you will take charge of your own faith journey and developing relationship with Christ and feed your mind and soul even when others are distracted and not watching. If you have questions about this study, want to discuss it further or just want someone to pray with, please email lighthousecovenantf@gmail.com or text/call 408-460-9196. YOU are the future, stay strong in the Lord, keeping fighting the good fight, and never forget God LOVES you!

Outline:

- 1. Introduction-3 minutes**
- 2. Bible Scripture Reading-3 minutes**
- 3. Video Clip-3 minutes**
- 4. Bible Lesson Discussion-6 minutes**
- 5. Prayer-2 minutes**

1. Introduction: We have an expression that has become common: "a wake-up call."When something happens to you, or you witness something horrible, we may call that a "wake-up call." I've had friends who suffered unexpected heart attacks or came near death in an automobile accident, and spoke of the event as a "wake-up call." The Bible study today is about Paul's "Wake-up call" to the Christians living in Ephesus.

2. Bible Scripture Reading: Look up Ephesians 5:14-18. Read it out-loud.

3. Video Clip: Watch the video below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Xl2cTwJ6ok>

4. Bible Lesson Discussion:

WAKE-UP:

One way to understand conversion is: hearing the gospel, you wake up, see what sin is doing to you and walk away from it. Paul is writing to the Christians in Ephesus, to people already converted. He is telling the Christians: Once you let Christ wake you out of sin, you must not fall back into the slumber of that old way of life. Once you get your wake-up call, don't hit the snooze button. Christians need to be warned, admonished, and sometimes awakened from their nap. **Do you feel as if you are taking a nap from God, Godly thinking, or Godly living? Is it easy to take a nap?**

PAY ATTENTION:

"see then that you walk **circumspectly**, not as fools but as wise."

Look at these three words: "**see**," "**walk**" and "**wise**." This is about paying attention to your conduct so that there is consistent wise living. You have to watch where you are going, or you will fall down. This is simply paying attention. You cannot be a Christian without focus, without attention on your manner of life. This is a call for wise living, and that requires that we pay attention to where we are going. **Have you ever stumbled into sin from not watching where you were going?**

Look at that word that we are not used to: "**Circumspectly.**" Think of the word "**circle**" and "**inspection.**" This is about looking all around. To stay awake in your service to the Lord it is crucial to inspect yourself . . . look all around.

- Look for the approach of temptation.
- Look carefully at your inner attitude.
- Look at peer influences.
- Look at how people can influence you, for good or evil.
- Look at your Bible reading habits.
- Look at your attendance.
- Look at your involvement in prayer.
- Look at your use of money and time and your duties in the home.

Walk with your eyes open - alert to everything around you. Being awake spiritually also means . . . Wise Time Management: "redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

Wise living is the healthy combination of many kinds of good choices, consistently repeated.

- Good choices about relationships.
- Good choices about money.
- Good choices about your response to pain and disappointment.
- And here - good choices about your use of time.

Time, is a gift from God and if we squander it - if our habits amount to wasting time or using time primarily for selfish purposes - we have failed to act as Paul directs in his wake-up call.

Redeem the time, because the days are evil.-Consider time to be a precious commodity.

Have you ever wasted the time God has given you? What could you do with your time that would please God?

Understand The Lord's Will:

You just cannot be alert, awake and active as a Christian if you are not seeking to understand the **will of the Lord**. "Therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

Many who fall asleep after becoming Christians have not sought diligently to understand the will of the Lord. That led to their slumber.

Absence or negligence leads to spiritual illness, slumber and death. In the absence of Bible reading, neglecting Bible classes, staying home when Bible preaching is offered, then gradually forming these bad habits over time - you cannot maintain good spiritual health, and cannot be wide awake in your discipleship. The grace of God becomes of no avail.

Be Sober:

"And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit."

Simple: Let it be what the Spirit offers, not what the wine bottle offers! If we must consume, ingest or drink - If we must live under the influence of something, let it be spiritual, not alcoholic or some other mood altering substance.

Do you want to remain alert - awake and alive as a Christian? Pay attention to Paul's wake-up call:
Ephesians 5:14-18.

Therefore He says:

"Awake, you who sleep,

Arise from the dead,

And Christ will give you light."

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.

5. Prayer: God is your Father and Friend. He loves you so much and wants to hear from you. As you close in prayer keep these points in mind:

- **If you have fallen asleep or take too many naps ask God to wake you up**
- **Pray for your focus to be sharp and to be able to pay attention so you do not stumble**
- **Ask for the Holy Spirit to make you aware of areas in your life that need inspection**
- **Seek wisdom and Godly living**
- **Use your time to serve the Lord**
- **Cry out for God to point you to the path that He has planned for your life, His will and not the worlds**

As the days get strange, and people are fearful, you can always find peace in God's Word. You are not alone, if you need someone to talk to reach out too Lighthouse, your spiritual family will be here for you.

Psalm 46:1-3

God is our refuge and strength,

an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way

and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam

and the mountains quake with their surging.