



**August 3, 2025**

**United - Ephesians 5:8-14 - Walk in Light**

**SUMMARY:** Today's sermon explored Paul's call in Ephesians 5:8-14 to "walk as children of light." Using vivid comparisons between darkness and light, the message unpacked what it means to move from a life defined by fear, selfishness, and chaos to one marked by purpose, fruitfulness, and the radiance of Christ. The sermon challenged the idea that Christians are merely passive reflectors of Christ's light, instead affirming that, in Christ, we become light ourselves. It also addressed the tension between striving to please God and the mystery of His will, encouraging a life of intentional, Spirit-empowered action rather than paralyzing over-analysis. Finally, the sermon called for an "awake" life—one that expects God's abundance daily and is alert to opportunities for good works, both big and small.

**SCRIPTURE:** Ephesians 5:8-14; Matthew 5:16-17, 10:42; John 8:12; 2 Corinthians 4:17; Proverbs 23:7, Philippians 4:8; 2 Chronicles 16:9

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. The sermon challenged the idea that Christians are just "reflectors" of Christ's light, saying we actually become light in Him. How does this truth affect the way you see yourself and your purpose this week? Is there a situation where you need to remember your new identity?
2. Think about a recent small act of kindness you did (or could have done). How might that simple action carry eternal weight, even if no one else notices?
3. The pastor shared about not obsessing over every little decision, like what socks to wear, but instead focusing on becoming someone who naturally pleases God. Are there areas in your life where you tend to overthink God's will? How can you shift your focus to growing in wisdom and character?
4. The message said that living fruitfully—showing joy, peace, and generosity—exposes darkness more than arguments ever could. Is there a place in your life (work, home, neighborhood) where you could let your actions speak louder than your words this week?
5. The sermon described being "awake" as living with expectation that God is at work in every moment, not just the big ones. What is one ordinary part of your day where you could look for God's presence or an opportunity to do good?
6. Pastor Matt told a story about someone picking up trash while talking about big dreams for the city. What is a "small" good work you could do this week to practice being awake to God's purpose, even if it seems insignificant?
7. The message said our daily choices are like bricks building the eternal version of ourselves. What is one choice you want to make differently this week, knowing it shapes who you are becoming in Christ?