

**Pastor Dave Patterson**  
**Ephesians Part 8—Bring Your Brokenness**  
**3.7.2021**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

**[2 Timothy 2:20-21, AMP]**

Now in a large house there are not only vessels **and** objects of gold and silver, but also vessels **and** objects of wood and of earthenware, and some are for honorable (noble, good) use and some for dishonorable (common) use. **Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself** from these **things** which are dishonorable—disobedient, sinful, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified [set apart for a special purpose and], useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

***Simply applying the Scriptures has massive life-changing power.***

**[1 Timothy 4:13, AMP]**

“Devote yourself to **the public reading of Scripture**, to preaching and to teaching the sound doctrine of God's word”

**[Ephesians 4:17-19]**

With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they

have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.

Gentile / **grk** = eth'-nos

- a. a multitude of individuals **of the same nature** or genus
- b. foreign nations not worshipping the true God, but pagan in practice

### **[1 Corinthians 12:2]**

You know that when you were still pagans (Gentiles), you were led astray and swept along in worshiping idols.

### **[Ephesians 4:20-23]**

But that isn't what you learned about Christ. Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, **throw off** your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ***Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature,*** created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

***You cannot “throw off” without the “instead.”***

### **[Ephesians 4:25-27]**

So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. And “don't sin by letting anger control you.” Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, **for anger gives a foothold to the devil.**

***God is not against effort; He's against earning.***

***You cannot wear the backpack of sin and the robe of righteousness at the same time.***

**[Ephesians 4:28]**

If you are a thief, **quit** stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard **work**, and then **give** generously to others in need.

**[Ephesians 4:29-30]**

Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that **you will be saved on the day of redemption.**

**[Ephesians 4:31]**

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, **as well as all types of evil behavior.**

**[Ephesians 4:32-5:2]**

**Instead**, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

**Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do**, because you are his dear children. <sup>2</sup> Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

**[Ephesians 5:3]**

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.**

**Fornication:** *grk/* por-ni'-ah = Every form of sex and sexuality that is beyond the guidelines clearly given in scripture.

***Let's not forget we are not of this world: we are pilgrims and sojourners. We have this brief window of time to prepare for eternity!***

***The grace is given so you can live above the cesspool of sin that is in our world. You are called to a different standard, so align your life with His Word.***

**[1 Corinthians 6:13-20, NLT]**

You can't say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies. <sup>14</sup> And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.

**15** Don't you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup> And don't you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, "The two are united into one." <sup>17</sup> But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

**18 Run from sexual sin!** No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. <sup>19</sup> Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, <sup>20</sup> for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

***God always restores to the level of repentance.***

**1. LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD.**

**We Cannot Remain Silent!**

**The Equality Act is a dangerous threat to our nation.**

{There will be a link on the TFH App to follow-up on this.}

I am writing to you about a very dangerous piece of legislation—the Equality Act. The Biden Administration has said they want to pass this within their first 100 days. I cannot say this more emphatically—for people, for businesses, and for ministries of faith, the Equality Act is a threat to life as we know it in our nation today. **It's a real game-changer.**

## **2. INVITE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO INVESTIGATE YOUR HEART.**

### **[Ephesians 4:30]**

“And do not bring sorrow to God’s Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own”

## **3. BRING YOUR PAST AND BROKENNESS TO JESUS.**

FOR MONDAY—

1. Forgive someone quickly, thoroughly, and like you’ve been forgiven, at the foot of the cross.
2. Compare cultural remedies with the Word of God’s solutions.
3. Bless the Lord with some personal praise from your lips. Cultivate the “instead.”

### **TALK IT THROUGH**

1. What are some things that you or your household has set aside for special events or purposes?
2. Where have you seen culture trying to medicate people to what are, in fact, sin issues? (Reinforce that we do support and do not diminish counseling, therapy, etc.)
3. How do we position our lives to be used by Christ? What does it look like to be a “vessel of honor” today? [2 Tim 2:20]
4. Why is it so important to teach and follow sound doctrine? Where can you practically demonstrate that priority?

5. Considering Ephesians 4.20-23, what does it look like to put on your new nature?
6. What is the biblical definition of sexuality? How is sex also a spiritual connection? Why do you think the Bible says that among us there should not be even a “hint of sexual immorality?”
7. From the application points, which of the three action steps (let your voice be heard, invite the Holy Spirit to investigate your heart, and bring your past brokenness to Jesus) do you need to prioritize right away? How are these practices keys you can use on an ongoing basis?
8. How does following God’s plan lead us to “abundant life?”