

Application

4. Ephesians 5:4 shows again how seriously God takes our speech. Share again how you guard your words to avoid those that are “out of place.”

5. Ephesians 5:8-14 have the same emphasis that we saw in 4:22-24. We are not just to put off the old, as we are commanded in verses 3-7, but we must put on the new. What practical advice can we find in Philippians 4:8 that will help us obey the command to wake up and rise from the dead?

WAKE UP! EPHESIANS 5:3-14

“We need to be alert ... will we influence the world for Jesus Christ or will the world influence us?”

Billy Graham

A sweet aroma or a bad stench? (Ephesians 5:1-3)
(Ephesians 4:30; 1 Thessalonians 5:22)

The pollutants that make us stink (Ephesians 5:3-7)
(1 Timothy 6:20; 2 Timothy 2:16; Matthew 12:34-35; Exodus 15:22-25; Ephesians 2:2-3)

Why we write off sin: we **compartmentalize sin** _____
by criticizing those that don't bother us and **excuse sin** _____
by explaining away those that do.

The expected triad: **sexual immorality** _____,
impurity _____, and **greed** _____.

The unexpected triad: obscene stories,
foolish talk, and coarse jesting.

Don't listen to those who tell you it's no big deal!

God's remedy for worthless talk: THANKSGIVING
(Exodus 15:22-25)

Leave the darkness: get cleaned up! (Ephesians 5:8-14)

(Romans 12:2; 1 John 1:7)

You've left the darkness; live like it!

The new godly triad: goodness (moral excellence)

Righteousness (giving God and others their due)

Truth (not something to be known, but something to be done)

Find out what pleases the Lord – do it.

Wake up! Let Christ's light shine on you.

Getting to Know You

1. If you were the ruler of a country, what is the first law you would introduce?

Into the Bible

2. What are the consequences of living a life characterized by sexual immorality, impurity and greed? If they are that serious, why do people keep behaving that way? Verse 6 would be a good place to start.
3. According to Colossians 1:9-14 (see vs. 12-13), darkness and light are two different kingdoms that we can live in. God has taken us out of the kingdom of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of light. How does this relate to leaving behind the deeds of the flesh and living as children of the light?