



Sermon Discussion Guide

modernfamily
the Gospel of the Church


“Visible Grace”

Ephesians 4:22-5:5

Rev. Ray Cortese, November 1 & 2, 2014

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read Ephesians 4:22-5:5. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 What are some things you learned to imitate from your earthly Dad?
- 2 Summarize the *Big Idea* of the sermon in *one phrase or sentence* (Note: this is not the same as listing the main points). In other words, if someone woke you up at 3am on Monday morning and asked, “What was the sermon about on Sunday?” what would you say in the midst of your sleepy haze?

VISIBLE GRACE: INTEGRITY

- 3 How has integrity become compromised in our day and age?
- 4 Do you consider yourself to be truthful and reliable? Can you recall a time when you broke a promise or a vow? What were the consequences of your lack of integrity?

- 5 What is “word inflation”? How have you been guilty of this?
- 6 Christians ought to present themselves honestly at work, in school, even on Facebook. How does this apply to your life? How does the gospel free you to be honest?

VISIBLE GRACE: KINDNESS

- 7 We should be angry about the things God is angry about. What might be some examples? How do you distinguish between righteous anger and unrighteous anger?
- 8 Why is venting your anger not healthy? When was the last time your words hurt someone? When was the last time your words built someone up? When you get angry, what is really going on inside you?

VISIBLE GRACE: WORK

- 9 Why should a Christian be a hard worker? How do you instill a healthy work ethic in your children? How might leaving a large inheritance to your offspring actually hurt them?

VISIBLE GRACE: SEX

- 10 What made the early church sexually distinct from the rest of the culture? In what ways should Christians be sexually distinct from the culture today?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- ✠ How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?