



## ***Ephesians 4:32-5:2***

### **Be Like God—Kind and Compassionate**

*by Bob DeWaay*

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## **Become Kind and Compassionate**

### **Ephesians 4:32a (LEB)**

Become kind toward one another, compassionate . . .

- “Become” is imperative in the Greek
- Paul describes communicable attributes of God which we must display
- God shows kindness to even His enemies (Lk 6:35) surely we should to one another

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## **Be Gracious as Those So “Graced”**

### **Ephesians 4:30b (LEB)**

...forgiving one another, just as also  
**God in Christ has forgiven you.**

- “Forgiving” is a participle “being gracious”
- *Charizomai* is used in Luke 7:42
- Implied: those who are gracious forgive
- This moral command is grounded in God’s action toward us in Christ

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## **Imitators of God**

### **Ephesians 5:1 (LEB)**

Therefore become imitators of God,  
as beloved children,

- This reveals that there are communicable attributes of God
- “Beloved children” are the building blocks (Ephesians 2:21) that comprise the church
- God shows personal love for each of His adopted children (Ephesians 1:5)

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## Walk in Love

### **Ephesians 5:2 (LEB)**

and **live in love**, just as also Christ loved us, and **gave himself for us** an offering and sacrifice to God for a fragrant smell.

- “Live” is *peripateo* (“walk around”) which is in the imperative
- “for us” denotes substitution
- “smell” implies a sacrifice that is acceptable to God (Gen. 8:21)

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## Implications and Applications

- To be like God we must be kind and gracious
- Only Christ’s sacrifice for sins is acceptable to God

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## No Strings Attached

### **Luke 6:35, 36 (NASB)**

“But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be **sons of the Most High**; for **He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men**. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

- See the context: sinners give to get something back (Luke 6:32-34)
- God shows kindness to his enemies

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## One Sacrifice for All Time

### **Hebrews 10:11-12 (ESV)**

And every priest **stands daily** at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which **can never take away sins**. But when Christ had offered for all time **a single sacrifice for sins**, he **sat down** at the right hand of God,

- This is commentary on and application of Psalm 110:1
- Contrast: stands daily vs sat down

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## Perfected Into Perpetuity

### **Hebrews 10:13, 14 (ESV)**

waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected **for all time** those who are being sanctified.

- For all time is *die\_neke\_s* which is used four times in the NT, all in Hebrews
- The term means “uninterruptedly” and is found in 7:3, 10:1, 10:12 and 10:14