



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of June 20, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Ephesians 5:1-2

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

In our sermon this morning, Pastor Morgan Maitland from Summit Bible Church in Fontana CA, taught us from Ephesians 5:1-2 that Christians are called to be imitators of God in how we love one another. This is ultimately an impossible task but one that God calls us and equips us to do by and through His Son Jesus Christ. We are called to forgive, to give, and to sacrifice as we imitate God.

Discussion Questions

1. Pastor Morgan gave us the illustration of a child tracing a picture and compared that image to how Christians are to imitate Jesus Christ. What makes this illustration so applicable to the slow but steady process of a Christian's sanctification (i.e. becoming more like Christ)?
2. In Ephesians 5:1 the Apostle Paul commands us to be imitators of God. God is perfect in every way and man is obviously not. How then, are we to

ever obey this command? What higher purpose of God might be accomplished by giving His children a task that can never be fully attained?

3. The second command in our passage today is to “walk in love”. What does the verb “walk” communicate as it relates to how we are to love? According to our passage today (v.2), why are we to love? How does Christ’s love for His people make the idea of a “Christian without love” an oxymoron (a figure of speech in which apparently contradictory terms appear in conjunction)?
4. In our sermon we heard that when we embrace someone, we pick up their smell and that smell stays with us for a long time. Have you embraced Christ so that you smell like Him? What do you think it means to embrace Christ? What characterizes a person who “smells” like Jesus?
5. If we are to imitate Jesus and love like He loves, then we must forgive, give, and sacrifice. This is not easy to do and God knows we cannot do it in and of ourselves. What is it that gives sinful humanity hope that we can love like Christ?