



## “Become What You Are”

June 21, 2026 | Text: Ephesians 5:1-14

**Big Idea:** Because God has made us beloved children, saints, and light in the Lord, we must become what we are by walking in Christ’s love, putting away what does not fit, and shining in the darkness by His light.

### 1. Become what you are: Beloved Children (vv. 1–2)

*[1] Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. [2] And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

### 2. Become what you are: Saints (vv. 3–7)

*[3] But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. [4] Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. [5] For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. [6] Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. [7] Therefore do not become partners with them;*

### 3. Become what you are: Light in the Lord (vv. 8–14)

*[8] for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light [9] (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), [10] and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. [11] Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. [12] For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they*

*do in secret. [13] But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, [14] for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”*

### Application:

1. Do not confuse being loved by God with being left unchanged by God.
2. Take sexual holiness seriously.
3. Let thanksgiving fight covetousness.
4. Stop listening to empty words.
5. Ask what is pleasing to the Lord.
6. Bring hidden things into the light.
7. Expose darkness by shining, not merely by scolding.

### Next week’s sermon text: Ephesians 5:15-21

If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

**Application Questions:** Where am I tempted to live beneath who God has already made me in Christ? Am I walking in the self-giving love of Christ, or mainly loving when it is convenient? What desire, habit, speech, entertainment, or hidden compromise does not fit a saint? Where has covetousness trained me to say, “I must have,” instead of giving thanks for what I have in Christ? What empty words am I tempted to believe about sin, holiness, grace, or judgment? Am I asking, “What can I get away with?” or “What is pleasing to the Lord?” What needs to be brought into the light so that Christ can heal it?

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