

Exposing Darkness

Ephesians 5:7-14

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- The Rise and Fall of Bill Cosby
- The Claims of Jesus Christ—no hypocrite!
- *“How can we be effective light-bearers and increase our spiritual lumens?”*
 - Must be separate, distinct from the world
 - Must develop “light-like” qualities
 - Must expose sin for what it is—sin is sin!

Exposing Darkness

A. Must have a moral platform from which to speak—Eph. 5:11

1. Must deal first with sin in our own lives!
2. Twin “sins” that affect most of us... (Philippians 2:14-15)
 - a. Complaining or grumbling
 - b. Disputing or arguing
3. Two ways the world will stop and take notice of us:
 - a. “love for one another”—John 13:34-35
 - b. “oneness”—John 17:21

B. Through manifesting a life of moral, spiritual, and personal excellence, being a positive role model.

1. Most people measure their lives by comparing themselves to others. 2 Corinthians 10:12
2. We provide a new standard for measurement—brings conviction
3. Peter agrees—1 Peter 2:11-12
 - a. The world observes our “good works”
 - b. “Glorify God on the day of visitation?”
4. Jesus agrees—Matthew 5:14-16
5. Believing wives agree—1 Peter 3:1-6

C. Through careful verbalization

1. In talking about sin—Ephesians 5:12
 - a. Less is best!
 - b. Dangerous in being explicit—can lead to sin.
 - c. Sin is sin—and needs to be labeled as such
2. In sharing the good news of the Gospel—Philippians 2:15-16
 - a. “ *Holding forth* ” the word of life—refers to the gospel
 - b. Emphasis needs to be on Jesus as the “*Light of the World*”

Summation—Ephesians 5:13-14

A. Everything exposed to light becomes visible! Light dispels darkness.

B. Call to salvation/ transformation of life—Ephesians 5:14