

Week One	Who We Is
Week Two	How We Be
Week Three	What We Ain't

Ephesians: A Three-Week Boogie

Week Three: What We Ain't

The Most Important Question: Why do we avoid those ways of life we avoid?

- Unpleasantness?
- Violation of a codified rule?
- Who we are or have become?

Ephesians 5:1-5--> Imitation of God

- What is the opposite of impurity *in this passage*?
- Does this mean we can't read 2 Samuel 11-12?

Ephesians 5:6-14--> Exposing the Unfruitful

- What eventually happens to those things that do not bear fruit *in this passage*?
- Why does this passage use light as its central metaphor?

Ephesians 5:15-20--> A Different Way to Fill Life

- What kind of life does this passage enjoin?
- What two kinds of life does this passage describe, and why is one better than the other?

Ephesians 5:21-32--> Submission Part One

- How do husbands and wives relate one to the other in this passage?
- Take a look at 1 Corinthians 11:3. How does the head/body metaphor work out there?

Ephesians 6:1-9--> Submission Part Two

- What other kinds of submission does this passage enjoin? What is his rationale in each case?
- Do verses 5-9 have anything to say to a nation where slavery is illegal?

Ephesians 6:10-24--> Boldness in Confronting the Powers

- How does the character of our struggle affect the ways that we "arm up"?
- In verse fifteen, for what are we to prepare? What is gospel?
- How does the letter wrap up?

Who We Ain't and Why We Don't

- What reasons does Paul give throughout these chapters for living a sort of life that differs from normal Ephesian practice? What practices in 21st-century America deserve the same kind of rejection from Christians?
- If you aren't familiar with Roman law regarding wives, slaves, and children, look it up some time this week. (A reputable online source will do.) What were the legal rights of these folks in the first century? Why would Paul advise them to do what their law already requires?
- Do we face the same sort or a different sort of battle than Paul describes in chapter six? What concrete practices might be part of our "armor"?