

We have been looking at the Church Jesus Longs For:

United – Serving – Mature

Now we look at the Follower Jesus Longs For

Paul paints a very clear picture a Jesus follower and what he hoped for the Ephesians believers in the command – Be imitators of God – Ephesians 5:1

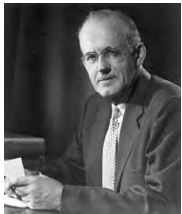
Imitators - μιμητης – mimic

1. Holiness

Ephesians 4:24, “and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.”

Leviticus 11:44,45; 19:2; 20:26 “Be holy for I am holy”

1 Peter 1:13-16, “¹³Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, ¹⁵but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; ¹⁶because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”



AW Tozer, “The horrible travesty we have in America today is Christianity without holiness.”

AW Tozer, “Whatever in my life is unlike God and contrary to the holiness of God must be eliminated from my life.”

2. Walk in Love

5:2, “Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; ²and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

1 John 4:7,8, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Matthew 22:36-39, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷And He said to him, “‘YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’ ³⁸This is the great and foremost commandment. ³⁹The second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’

3. **Walk in the Light**

Ephesians 5:7-8, "Therefore do not be partakers with them; ⁸for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light

1 John 1:5, "This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light and in him there is no darkness at all."

Matthew 5:14-16, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; ¹⁵nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. ¹⁶Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.