



Out With Wasted Time and In With A Strategic Life

September 11, 2022

Beware of the black holes that suck us in and lead to wasted time, energy, and life

The Way It Was

We were people wandering in darkness

Ephesians 5:8-11

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) 10 and find out what pleases the Lord. 11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

The Way It Was

Our actions were fruitless

Ephesians 5:11-12

Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. 12 It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.

The Way It Was

We engaged in unwise and time-wasting behaviors as a lifestyle

Ephesians 5:15-18

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery...

The Way It Could Be

We can walk with Jesus in the light

Ephesians 5:8-10

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) 10 and find out what pleases the Lord. 11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. 12 It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.

13 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. 14 This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

The Way It Could Be

We can live a fruitful life that pleases God

Ephesians 5:9

9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) 10 and find out what pleases the Lord.

The Way It Could Be

When we wake up, we can live a Spirit-filled life in line with God's will

Ephesians 5:14-18

This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” 15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit...

The Way It Could Be

We can sing, worship, and live in joy

Ephesians 5:19-20

speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Living the Dream Life

We can shine the light and truth of Jesus in our dark world

Ephesians 5:8

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light

Living the Dream Life

We can be radical God pleasers

Ephesians 5:10

10 and find out what pleases the Lord.

Living the Dream Life

We can live a wise and strategic life

Ephesians 5:14-18

*This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."
15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,*

Living the Dream Life

Our joy and thankfulness can reflect the presence and goodness of Jesus

Ephesians 5:19-20

speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What's my next step into the strategic and fruitful life God has planned for me?