

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – October 2, 2022**

**Theme: The World Eagerly Awaits Your Manifestation    Topic: Manifesting Christ**

**Main Texts: Ephesians 5:1-20**

**Key verse: Ephesians 5:1-2a** – *'Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are His dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ.'* (NLT)

---

**INTRODUCTION:** To manifest is when something theoretical is made real or visible. According to Romans 8:28-29, God's plan for, and working in every Christian is that we be conformed to the image and character of our Lord Jesus Christ. And God expects this conformity into the image of His Son not to be internal only, but should manifest (made real, expressed, displayed, be visible) in our daily lives, for all to see and experience. This is what it means "to be Christ-Like." As we study ways of manifesting the life of Christ in our lives today, it is important to remember that this manifesting flows from the new life we received through our union with Christ Jesus, established by the in-dwelling of the Holy Spirit in us. However, receiving the new life in Christ is the beginning of the journey, there is still a need to renew our mind to change the settings left there by our old nature which used to rule our minds and character (Romans 12:2). While this resetting is taking place, we would often experience conflict causing difficulty in obeying the Scriptures in our daily choices and living (Galatians 5:16-17). Therefore, the old nature must be completely done away with, for the new life in the Spirit to become our default setting, leading to a full expression of Christ in our everyday lives.

1. **(a) In all honesty, obeying God's word is neither easy nor commonplace. Yet God commands us to imitate Him. From Ezekiel 36:25-26; Ephesians 5:1; 2 Peter 1:3, what is God's basis for this high expectation? (a) What did God do to enable us to live the new life, and manifest Christ? (b) God commands us in Ephesians 5:1-2 to imitate Him by living a life of love. In what ways does God show us His love, which we can imitate? (c) How can one consistently manifest Christ when the old nature is still there with us?**

In Ezekiel 36:25-26, the Lord promised us His Spirit and to put away our filth and uncleanness so that we can live aright in His ordinances. This is the miracle of the new birth in Christ, which Apostle Paul captures in Ephesians 1-2. This new birth is what ushers the Holy Spirit in us. The Spirit makes us hunger to know God's word and to do what pleases Him. But it is one thing to hunger, and another to eat the food provided. One might even desire to do what pleases God, but desire is not the same as doing that which pleases God, especially when doing what pleases God runs against the grain of the old nature. One must choose to do. It will not happen automatically. Without doing what God wants, how can we manifest Christ?

2. **(a) From Ephesians 5:3-14, mention some practical choices a believer must make daily to manifest Christ. (b) What is the role of the Holy Spirit in these choices? And whose responsibility is it to make these choices? (c) One practical way God showed His love for us is to love us while we were His enemies (Romans 5:8). What practical way can a Nigerian believer deploy the power of the Holy Spirit to love an enemy?**

It is quite common nowadays, to see believers, young and old, apply worldly wisdom in their daily lives. In minor or major choices, whether personal or in relationships with others, at home or in business, etc. The popular refrain in all these is what works for one. Manifesting Christ is more than what works or what seems right. Manifesting Christ requires that the Christian walks circumspectly to find out what God wants and what pleases Him.

3. **Read Ephesian 5:15-20 (a) Let participants mention 3 things we commonly do which could appear wise but are unwise in the context of this passage (b) State practical steps we can take to walk more circumspectly in the areas mentioned above. (c) What principle does Jesus offer us in John 5:19, which we can imitate to manifest Him more?**

---

**Prayer:** *Lord, grant that our quest and life-long ambition be to live the Christian life in a way that others might bear witness that we "have been with Jesus!" Help us to steer clear of all filth and uncleanness and to walk circumspectly in the power of the Holy Spirit and manifest Christ to the World around us. Amen.*