



Date: April 14, 2019

Ephesians 5:1–2 ^(ESV)

Therefore be imitators of God, **as** beloved children.

² And walk in love,

as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Be Holy & Loving.

Holiness & love characterize God.

- Who He is (Holy) - Please look up and Read out loud 1 Peter 1:14-16
- What He does (Love). Jn 3:16

Holiness & love should characterize us.

- Who We are (Holy – Please look up and Read out loud Eph 1:3-14)
- What We do (Love -- Eph 5:1-2).

✚ Growing in Holiness expresses OUR growing “*In Him*.”

✚ Growing in Love expresses HIS character growing in us.

Some applications:

- How is being unholy a barrier to love?
 - [See Eph. 4:25-32]
- How is being unloving a barrier to holiness?
 - [See Eph. 5:3-8]



Day of Caring: Sunday, May 19,

How can we live out our new identity in Holiness and love as a Church?

Eph 5 references Following God's example walking in the way of love as a fragrant offering, living as children of LIGHT, making the most out of every opportunity. God calls us to sacrifice our time, offering our lives in service to others. Serving others shines the light of Christ, a fragrant offering, and opens doors for the gospel to be shared. **The Day of Caring** is a unique opportunity to do just this---serve an "adopted area", in which poverty and darkness exists. This also is an opportunity to build community through serving within your Life Group (including families, min age 8), evangelize and share the hope you have with others.

Would you as a group, consider, and begin planning this evening, to attend the 2019 Day of Caring?

Vision

Midland Free's *Day of Caring* is designed to allow the body at Midland Free to serve the adopted community of North Midland, building relationships with those we serve, one another, blessing those we serve, and sharing the gospel in word and deed.

Schedule

- 10:30 am: Leave Midland Free for North Midland Family Center
- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm: Box lunch at NMFC and team preparation, prayer send off
- 12:00 – 4:30 pm: Skilled/unskilled service at resident's home
- 4:45 – 6:00 pm: Celebration Dinner at North Midland Family Center with resident/family

Please Go online to mefchurch.org/golocal to register and check out the many ways to serve.

If someone has a laptop, please considering registering right now.

This will help the planning team know how to organize volunteer teams and how much food is needed.

Thank you!



Ephesians 1:3–14 ^(ESV)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.



Humility (*Isaiah 57:15*)

1. Am I quick to recognize and agree with God in confession when I have sinned?
2. Am I quick to admit to others when I am wrong?
3. Do I rejoice when others are praised and recognized and my accomplishments go unnoticed by men?
4. Do I esteem all others as better than myself?
5. Do I rejoice when others in my family succeed?

Obedience (*Hebrews 13:17; I Samuel 15:22*)

1. Do I consistently obey what I know God wants me to do?
2. Do I consistently obey the human authorities God has placed over my life?
3. Do I consistently obey and honor my parents?

Pure Heart (*I John 1:9*)

1. Do I confess my sin by name?
2. Do I keep “short sin accounts” with God (confess and forsake as He convicts)?
3. Am I willing to give up all sin for God?
4. Do I repent and confess my sins to others in my family? ¹

¹ Galaxie Software, [10,000 Sermon Illustrations](#) (Biblical Studies Press, 2002).