

# The Picture Perfect

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16<sup>th</sup> of May, 2010

Eph 5:1-14

## **We are loved despite our imperfections**

Example: Prodigal son

### *The Body Polluted*

The perfect image becomes corrupted with sexual immorality. Any form of sex should only occur within the confines of marriage because we are called to be 'one flesh'. It also creates soul-ties (bonds) with others that are not easily broken. Therefore any other form of sex breaks God's perfection of marriage.

### *The Confession Polluted*

James 3:1-12

Filthy, foolish or crude talk depowers our holiness and our morality. Words are powerful that when Jesus spoke the world was created. Therefore guard yourself from coarse language. However giving thanks helps bring the kingdom of God in our lives.

Example: Jesus gave thanks and the miracle of the loaves and fishes occurred.

### *The Community Polluted*

Do not associate\* with sinners. This does not mean that we are to live in communes.

\*Eph 3:6; Associate refers more to partnership, such as living the same way of life and having the same mindset.

## **Grace**

Titus 3:4-8

Grace sets you free and enables you to say no. Therefore because we have an advocate with God, we can gain forgiveness for when we sin. This means that we set the model of righteous living for the community around us.

Example: We are the light of the world, Matt 5:13-16

## **Practical Application**

Gal 6:9, Heb 12:3

Do not grow weary of doing good. Stand strong. Set a righteous example for the world, without being weird, but being real.

Example: David and Goliath; The mighty men