**Sermon Notes**

**“Purity in Body and Speech”**

**Ephesians 5:3–7**

**3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. 4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. 5 For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. 7 Therefore do not be partners with them.**

**3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.**

* “sexual immorality” (*porneia*) is a broad word covering any sexual activity \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* “impurity” (*akatharsia*) literally means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* “greed” (*pleonexia*) refers to “excessive or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for wealth or gain”

**4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.**

* Obscenity (*aischrotēs*) is that which is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Foolish talk (*morologia*) is “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”
* Coarse joking (*eutrapelia*) refers to coarse jesting involving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expressions and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_content

**5 For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.**

*“No practicing sinner, no unrepentant sensualist, has eternal life.”*

**6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient.**

*“What does God’s wrath look like?”* (cf. Romans 1:18-28)

**7 Therefore do not be partners with them.**

* Partners (*symmetochoi)* is actually a compound form, “partners with” or “fellow partners.”

Questions for Discussion:

1. What aspect of this message did you find most compelling or personally relevant? Why?
2. What are the consequences of a faith that is “all positive and no negative”? What are the consequences of a faith that is “all negative and no positive”? How can Christians cultivate balance between these emphases?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 4:15; 9:11; Ephesians 5:20; Colossians 4:2. What should believers be known for?
4. How do you tend to use humour? Have you rationalized a pattern of obscenity, foolish talk, or coarse joking? How could you replace this pattern with one of thanksgiving? Why is it important to do so?
5. How can you apply this sermon’s message to your life this week? How could others support you in this?