

## **Change: Part II**

1. The Irony of going back to Ephesians - Ephesians 5:8
2. Dwell Differently- The Youth are using this memorization tool based in the current High School topic of "Intimacy." This opportunity allows us to study together the different parts of this verse.
3. Change - Part 2 is a checkup and a reminder of some of the things mentioned during the last time I was on stage.
  - Heavenly Mindset & Gospel Change - How are you doing with these two very important aspects of your walk with God?
  - Pray for those going into ministry - You made a commitment to do so. They stood before you and were commissioned to follow the calling God laid on their hearts. Tell them of your prayers. Give them encouragement!

### **"You were Once Darkness"**

1. Darkness Defined
  - You were the darkness
    - Enemies of God (Romans 5:10, James 4:4)
    - Children of Satan (1 John 3:10, John 8:42-47)
  - What darkness lives in you is based on what areas of your life you keep in shadow
    - Paul - the things I want to do I don't, the things I don't want to do I do (Romans 7:15 - 20)
    - Seek the kingdom of God and all these things will be added (Matthew 6:25-34)

## 2. "But Now"

- Transitional Statements require movement
- Now - not later, NOW! (Proverbs 6:6-11, Eph 5:15-17, James 4:17)
- Where does the light come from?
- What does light do to darkness? How much do you need to effect change in the dark?
- Evidence of light is shadow. Are you meeting resistance in your life or are you in coast mode?

## Live as Children of Light

1. Being able to interact with Youth is a wonderful blessing. They are challenging at times, to be sure. But they are also one of the most valuable assets we have access to because they will carry the gospel places we can not and will be the ones to stand in our stead and take up the race set before not only us, but them as well! Here are a few things they would like to encourage you with as you seek out how to live as children of light:
  - Patience - (Romans 12:12, Colossians 3:12)
    - Children helping chores take longer, but if we are to teach them we must patiently help them learn how to do things on their own.
    - Do not provoke children to wrath (Eph 6:4)
  - Listen -
    - Fix it mode vs Processing the problem
    - Venting or an ear to hear emotions.
2. General ways to live as children of light -
  - Outreach (Romans 10:14, 2 Timothy 4:2)
  - Service (1 Peter 4:10)
  - Personal Growth leads to "others mindedness"

## Application:

1. What do you need to change?
  - Sinful Habits
  - Lazy Habits
  - “Others” mindset - Me vs We
2. Are you dwelling in the “but now” lifestyle?
  - Blessings
  - Identity (1 Peter 2:9, Ephesians 2:10, 1 John 3:1-3)
  - Future Hope (Hebrews 11:1, 1 Peter 1:4)

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you about something that has helped remind me to be more plugged into the Word of God. My hope, my prayer, is that this congregation CHANGE for God’s glory! We all need to change, do we not? Not for love of money, or self promotion, but for the Kingdom of God to be shouted from every rooftop in Jefferson County. For change to be a constant reflection of what God is doing in our lives in order for us to make great of God and God to be greatly known!

Remember, God’s changes are always for HIS glory!