March 5, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Eph. 5:1-2 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (NIV)

I have always enjoyed really good impressionists. My favorite was Rich Little. He was amazing because he could sound and act just like many famous people. As a young boy, I would try to also do these impressions and I got fairly good at some of them. But, I realized that sounding like someone doesn't mean the same as becoming like them. The Greek term that Paul uses here means to assume someone's ways, thought, and nature. We don't need to just sound 'godly' but to become 'godly.' We are to follow the example of Christ. We are to walk in purity. We are to walk in His love - 1 John 4: 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. (NIV) We are to walk in the light - 1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. (NIV) We are to walk in the truth - 1 John 5:6 This is the One who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. (NIV)

In essence, we are to emulate Christ and become more like Him every day. Not focusing on the deeds of God, but on the character of God. And so, we walk in His footsteps and according to His standards. And we love others the way He has loved us; unconditionally and completely. He gave His life as a fragrant offering lifted up to the Father. Heb. 7:25 Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them. (NIV) Do you realize that Jesus is always praying for you? That's how much He loves you!

Dear LORD, we need Your help to walk in Your will and in Your ways. Help us to love like You do. Help us to walk in the light and be light to others. Help us to live in Your truth. In Jesus Name, Amen