

Imitate Your Heavenly Father
06-19-22

I. Ephesians 5:1 - *Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.*

- A. Children imitate their parents. Perhaps this is one reason why we are called to be like children in order to enter the kingdom
- B. God calls us to imitate Him. We put on His son Jesus in baptism and obedience. But there are also specific ways we are to imitate our heavenly Father.

II. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - *As He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."*

- A. Originally, a command to the priests of Israel – Lev. 11:44-45
- B. Now it is a command to the Priesthood of Christ – 2 Cor. 6:14-18

III. Luke 6:36 – *"Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful."*

- A. In Matthew 5 it is said to be "perfect"; is mercy perfection?
- B. The merciful obtain mercy – Matt. 5:7
- C. The unmerciful are lost – Matt. 18:28

IV. John 15:9,12 - *"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you.. love one another as I have loved you"*

- A. Above all, the Father is loving.
- B. we are to love as God has loved - 1 John 4:7-21
- C. Be steadfast as God is faithful to us