

KEEP AWAY

The Christian life is supposed to be fulfilling and abundant. Instead, it can feel more like a game of Keep Away—a game of being in the middle, chasing the ball and never being able to reach it.

Paul saw this frustration stemming from a gap between belief and behavior. Keep Away is a verse-by-verse study through Ephesians to help put you on the road to experiencing life when belief and behavior are united.

August 1/2

Ephesians 5:1-14 | Being Imitators of Christ

I. God is love. Live a life of love.

A. _____

B. _____

II. Enemies of a Christian Lifestyle

A. Avoid:

1. _____ to empty words.

2. _____ with evil people.

III. God is light. Be light.

A. Children of light:

1. Bear _____ .

2. Invest their lives in what _____ God.

3. _____ themselves from evil actions in their own lives.

4. _____ the evil actions of others.

For Discussion

1. How do you know if you're walking in love?
 2. Give some examples of empty words. [Hint: obscenity, buffoonery, ribaldry. Translate *filthiness*, *foolish talking*, and *jesting* (NKJV).]
 3. Why does the apostle say to avoid empty words and then exhort us to give thanks? In what situations might we need to give thanks in order to avoid obscenity, buffoonery, or coarse jesting?
 4. How do you partake with evil people?
 5. How are you investing your life in what pleases God?
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Upcoming Events

Area Small Group Leaders Conference: Shaping A Successful Small Group

Part I: Friday, Aug. 21 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Part II: Friday, Aug. 21 | 7-9:40 p.m. &

Saturday, August 22 | 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Jim Egli discusses the challenges of starting, growing, & maintaining small groups that connect with God & strengthen followers of Jesus while maintaining an outward focus.

Egli is Pastor of Small Groups at the Champaign Vineyard in Illinois & holds a PhD in Small Group Discipleship. He's authored 15 books on effective small group ministry.

Is there a potential leader in your group? Invite them and pass their name along to me.

Part I, \$30 (includes lunch); part II, \$20; both, \$45. Location: HVC Campus.

**FULL SCHEDULE &
REGISTRATION at
HeartlandVineyard.org**