



# HEAVEN EARTH

## Heaven on Earth: Hang A Street Light

October 31st & November 1st

**Speaker:** Pastor Joel Schmidgall

**Scripture:** Ephesians 5:1-14

### Series Overview

*Our identity, our authority is anchored in a dimension of reality called heaven. It is the domain of God's dominion — perfect harmony, true identity, full authority. Every blessing is ours in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1:3). Heaven is invading earth right here, right now. How? With a supernatural demonstration of God's love and power and wisdom. As citizens of heaven, we represent the heavenly realm. The goal? On earth, as it is in heaven.*

### Series Discussion Questions

How did you witness heaven invading earth this week?

### Message Overview

*From the very beginning of our lives, we learn and grow from imitating others. The question over time becomes WHAT and WHO should we imitate? When you find faith in Christ, you are given both an identity as a child of God and a calling to imitate God (Ephesians 5:1). Identity and action are interlinked. Things like love and purity and sacrifice are virtues that we should strive to imitate. But that only happens when we know who we are. Our passage today gives both guidance in who we are as well as what we should do. We are love, we are light, we are God's children. You can't control anyone else's action, but when you live out God's light, you shine brightness into darkness. We hope and pray that as a church community we are people that don't stand by complaining, but instead go out and hang a street light to provide warmth and direction for those around us. Join us as we talk about what it looks like to imitate God.*

## Message-Specific Discussion Questions

With election day this Tuesday, **how are you choosing to navigate this week?**

Pastor Joel shared how, “We go through life imitating others. It’s an innate part of who we are.” **What or who are you imitating in this season?**

As we are walking our path in life, sometimes we lose our way and fall down. When you lose your way and fall down, **What do you do to pick yourself up?**

In Ephesians 5:8-9, Paul reminds us we were darkness but because of Christ and our new identity, now we walk in light. **What do you believe about yourself?**

Ephesians 5:14 states “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” **How is the light of Christ being reflected off of you?**

## Practical Application

- Pray through the four ways to be a lighthouse this week.
- Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to [NCC Daily](#), a new five-minute audio podcast to help you walk verse-by-verse through the book of Ephesians. Invite a few others to do so with you, connecting throughout the week via Marco Polo or a group text, or meeting together online in person to discuss and debrief what you’re learning.
- Climb the stairs to the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. Join us as we start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. Register at [ncc.re/UpperZoom](https://ncc.re/UpperZoom).