

An Opportunity Worth Taking!

Ephesians 5:13
Pastor Daniel Flynn

I. Should a Christian Participate in Halloween?

A. Paul gives us the answer in Ephesians 5:

Look with me at 5:1-13

Verse 11: “Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.”

Verse 10 “and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord”

II. Carefully determine what pleases the Lord.

III. What we as Modern Christians must do _____!

i. **Easter was a pagan holiday.**

ii. **Christmas was a pagan holiday.**

IV. As Christians we need to be vigilant and re-define Halloween.

Matthew 14:25-27:

Matthew 8:28-32:

V. Even those we may see with their super hero costumes on are opportunities to share Jesus and re-define Halloween.

i. We can share the fact that Jesus can raise the Dead!

ii. We can tell them about This Jesus who can walk through walls

iv. We can tell them how He can disappear

v. What a Super Hero we serve.

vi. This Friday night is Halloween; we are having our Trunk or Treat. We do this in order to **re-define Halloween for our community**. We give them an alternative to dressing up as witches and demons and zombies and devils and going house to house not knowing who or what their children will encounter.

. We give them a safe environment for their families and we will tell them about Jesus. **We re-define Halloween by making it about Jesus** not the Devil.

. Allow your children to enjoy the games and candy this Halloween. There is no harm in pretending to be a princess or a prince . A super Hero or a Ninja Turtle.

. **We just need to teach them that the true one to emulate is Jesus Christ.**

VI. If you plan to stay home and think “I don’t want to open my door and ‘participate in this holiday’ so I am leaving the lights out!” Let me encourage you to consider a different opportunity. Leave the lights on, recognize that your neighbors are literally coming to your door, reach out to them with not just candy, but with an invite to church. Maybe even a gospel tract or even simply some scripture printed on a piece of paper... of course with a piece or two of candy to sweeten the deal!!

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