



Home Group Discussion and Application - February 23 Ephesians 5: 1-21

- 1) What are practical implications about the following aspects of the verb “be filled” with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18) - covered in the sermon! :)

imperative mood -
passive voice -
present tense -
plural form -

- 2) Read John 16: 7-15

How is the Holy Spirit described?

What does the Holy Spirit do?

- 3) Read Romans 8: 5-17

Does the Holy Spirit indwell (live in) all believers in Christ?

How do we “set our mind” on the Spirit?

- 4) Read Colossians 2: 9-10

What is “the fullness in Christ” that we have been given?

Is “the fullness” something we earn or achieve? Or is it a gift of grace?

- 5) It is tempting to find fullness in something other than Christ.

What are you tempted to cherish in place of Christ?



“Full Of What?”

Ephesians 5: 1-21

READ TEXT

PRAY

Ephesians 1-3

Our redemption, hope, peace, and riches in Christ (a new identity)

Ephesians 4-6

Shifts into guiding the church into practical out-workings of the gospel

How we walk in a manner worthy of our calling (a new way of life)

Now that we have started with Christ, how to grow up in Christ?

There's beauty and delight when it's going right!

Illus: Olympics

When it's going right in Christ we imitate or “mimic” God as His beloved children

Walk in love (5: 2-7)

Walk as children of light (5: 8-14)

Walk in wisdom (5: 15-17)

There ya go! Any arguments with living more like that?

How can we live more like that? Living more like Jesus

Reality is - it sounds so good and right and we want to - we fail when doing our best
on our own - to live in love, light, and wisdom

I'm here to remind you that you can't do it by wanting to and trying harder!

So is God cruel by instructing us to live in a fanciful way that we are not able to?

How to live a lovely life in love, light, and wisdom - Glad you ask!

“Wake up” (14) to how the gospel not only redeems you, but can change you!

“So do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is” (17)

Key Point

The key to it going right

so there's beauty and delight in Christ

is being filled with the Spirit

“Because the days are evil” (16) -- raw honesty!



(18) Don't go to wine and such spirits to drink! (Be alert and sober)

Go to Jesus and drink - believe in Him - rivers of living water will flow - refers to the H.S. (John 7:37-39)

"Be Filled" - be under the influence of the Holy Spirit, not alcohol

"In my sober judgment the relation of the Spirit to the believer is the most vital question the Church faces today"

-A.W. Tozer

Romans 8 - if you're in Christ the Holy Spirit lives in you!

To give you a new heart and new power to live a new life

I Cor. 2:12 - the indwelling Holy Spirit gives us godly wisdom

"that we may understand what God has freely given us"

The mind of Christ (I Cor 2:16) comes from the Spirit of God

If you have trusted in the person/work of Christ to pay your debt you can't pay --

The Spirit of God lives in you!

"The Helper" Jesus promised in John 16 has come (to guide us and to glorify Christ)

John 16:15 says the Holy Spirit receives from Christ what He makes known to you

The question now - are you in the practice of being filled with the Spirit?

It's the key to it going right, so there's beauty and delight in Christ!

What does the Word of God say about this?

Be filled with the Spirit (5: 18) - 4 things about the verb (grammar lesson:)
imperative mood - not a suggestion or recommendation; a command!

passive voice - let the Spirit fill you by yielding to Him

present tense - continuous; daily

Believers in Christ are "sealed" aorist - once; fast; finished (1:13 and 4:30)

All believers are sealed; not all believers remain filled

plural form - each one of us and all the people of God

The command to sobriety and the command to be Spirit-filled is for you and for us



STORY - Honda - wouldn't start (my initial response - full of s.t., but not the H.S.:)
Positive terminal battery cable (connects the system to the power source)

Results of being filled with the Spirit (5: 19-21)
Right relationship with one another
Right relationship with God
Fruit of the Spirit

You're connected to the power source, so when you turn the ignition - you start up!
One Pastor (John Stott) put it this way:
The 2 imperative verbs (do not get drunk with wine and be filled with the Spirit)
are evidenced by
4 present participle verbs - speaking and submitting to one another
and worshiping and thanking God
The command is followed by 4 descriptive consequences

The consequences of the Spirit's fullness are relational (Eph 5) and moral (Gal 5)
*right relationship with one another
*right relationship with God
*fruit of the Spirit
(love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control)

Bob Roberts, Transformation, p.70
"The Holy Spirit is not optional...true spiritual transformation is impossible apart
from Him"

A.W. Tozer, The Divine Conquest, p.64
"A doctrine has practical value only as far as it is prominent in our thoughts and makes a
difference in our lives. By this test, the doctrine of the Holy Spirit as held by most evangelical
Christians today has almost no practical value."

Ephesians 5:18 - "being filled"
*is a command, calls for us to be yielded or surrendered, and is a continuous process

So what do we do? What is our part in being filled with the Holy Spirit?



ASK

Luke 11:13 - If you, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

Surrender (Rom 12:1-2) Present yourself to God

Obey (Acts 5:32) We are witnesses, and so is the Holy Spirit,
whom God has given to those who obey Him

Believe (Galatians 3:2) Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law,
or by believing? Context - have faith in Christ crucified

ILLUS - Guy pushing on mast of sailboat - PUT THE SAIL UP!

H.S. = wind in your sail (ASK, SURRENDER, OBEY, BELIEVE)

“The ministry of the Spirit is Christo-centric.

The test of any professed movement of the Spirit in personal or corporate experience is the place it gives to Christ.”

-J. Oswald Sanders