

Be Filled with the Spirit, Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians 5:18.
- B. If Ephesians 5:18 was not in the book, the Christian life could not be fulfilled.
- C. The key to the Christian life is being energized by the Spirit of God.

II. Contrast.

- A. The contrast is with being drunk.
- B. The motivation for our worship comes from being filled by the Spirit.

III. Command: be filled with the Holy Spirit.

- A. Being filled with the Spirit is not an option for the Christian.
- B. The meaning of filling.
 - 1. Every Christian possesses the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:9)
 - a. We are never commanded to be Baptized by the Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:18; 6:19; John 7:37)
 - b. We are never commanded to be indwelt by the Spirit. (Ephesians 1)
 - 2. Being filled by the Spirit is a moment by moment activity that is received from someone else.
 - 3. Being filled means to be permeated. The Spirit of God wants to “flavor” your life.
 - 4. Being filled means to be controlled. (John 16:6)
- C. Being filled with the Spirit helps us to transcend our circumstances. (Acts 6:5; 7:55; 9:17; 11:22; 13:52)
- D. The filling the Spirit never produces anything ecstatic at all—it produces singing, thanksgiving and rightness in human relationships. (Colossians 3:16-17)
- E. To be filled with the Spirit, one must be feeding on the Word of God.
- F. Being filled by the Spirit is the same as yielding to the truth of Christ in one’s life.

IV. Consequences.

Application Questions:

1. What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

2. How is being filled by the Holy Spirit often misunderstood? Why are these misunderstandings?

3. What is your plan for digging more and deeper into God's Word to be filled by the Spirit? Explain.
