

Be Filled with the Spirit

Ephesians 3:14-21; 5:18

NLAC 3.9.08 hfd

1. Spirit-Filling and Ephesians 3:14-21

2. Spirit-Filling and Ephesians 5:18

We have been commanded to live continuously under the influence of the Spirit by letting the Word control us, pursuing pure lives, confessing all known sin, dying to self, surrendering to God's will, and depending on His power in all things. Being filled with the Spirit is living in the conscious presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, letting his mind, through the Word, dominate everything that is thought and done. Being filled with the Spirit is the same as walking in the Spirit. (MacArthur)

This command (when interpreted in light of its context of not getting drunk with wine), places an emphasis on drinking deeply from the Holy Spirit (Spring of Living Water) in order to find real, lasting happiness (joy) instead of the temporary high (or temporary escape, warmth, comfort, etc.) that comes from wine (or any of the broken cisterns from which we tend to drink in our attempts to find happiness apart from God).

3. Spirit-Filling and Hindrances Ephesians 4:26-27, 30-31; Revelation 3:15-20

4. Spirit-Filling and Misconceptions Ephesians 1:13-14; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 19-20; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 12:14

5. Spirit-Filling and Two Aspects (Also...2 aspects of sanctification subsequent to conversion: Crisis & Progressive) Special filling - Acts 4:31; Progressive filling - Acts 11:24

6. Spirit-Filling and other Scriptures Jeremiah 2:13; Psalms 37:4

7. Spirit-Filling and the Evidence Galatians 5:22-23

8. Spirit-Filling and Our Responsibility

1. Pray in humility and brokenness...confessing all known sin...in complete surrender.

(Ps. 51:17; Jas. 4:6b-10). Confess all known sin and ask for help in overcoming sin in your life. Choose to die to self-will. Surrender to the Lord without reservation. Put God first in your life – before anything or anyone else.

2. Pray with thanksgiving and worship the Lord.

Praise the Lord for choosing you. Thank Him for your salvation in Christ Jesus. Believe that Jesus Christ has provided victory over sin for you. You have been blessed beyond measure. God has promised to keep on blessing you for all eternity beyond what you can even imagine.

3. Pray in faith and ask for it.

Ask the Lord to quench the thirst of your soul. Ask Him to fill you with the Spirit. Believe Jesus is all you need and take Him as your sanctifier. Appropriate the riches that are yours in Christ Jesus.

Lord, strengthen me with power by your Spirit in my inner being. I want Jesus to feel completely at home in my heart. Please help me to really grasp your love for me in Christ – to experience your love in a way that it really changes the way I think and live. Lord, I want to be filled up with all your fullness. I want to be full of you. I want to reflect you in my life. I want you to be everything to me. I want to experience you and all that you have for me. I want to enjoy you, to be controlled by you, to delight in you, to drink you in. I want every waking moment to be a moment in which I'm experiencing the presence of Jesus Christ in my life. And I know that you desire this for me and will bless me beyond anything I can imagine.