

GROUNDHOG DAY



“The Spirit-filled life is not a special, deluxe edition of Christianity. It is part and parcel of the total plan of God for His people.”

~ A.W. Tozer

“We are a supernatural people, born again by a supernatural birth, kept by a supernatural power, sustained on supernatural food, taught by a supernatural Teacher, from a supernatural Book. We are led by a supernatural Captain in right paths to assured victories”

~ Hudson Taylor

Ephesians 5:7-10

Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time *you were darkness*, but now *you are light in the Lord*. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:11-12

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light lest his works should be exposed. (John 3:19-20 ESV)

How We Respond to Sin

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2. We recognize that sin has no long-term benefits

For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. *But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed?*

(Romans 6:20-22 ESV)

For the end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

(Romans 6:20-22 ESV)

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3. We refuse to get cozy with sin
4. We don't glorify sin
5. We expose sin

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Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead *expose* them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.

Ephesians 5:13-14

But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Ephesians 5:15-17

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

How to Redeem the Time

- Apply God's Principles daily

Ephesians 5:15-17

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as *wise*, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be foolish, but *understand what the will of the Lord is.*

The simple believes everything, but
the prudent gives thought to his steps.
One who is wise is cautious and turns
away from evil, but a fool is reckless
and careless. (Proverbs 14:15-16 ESV)

How to Redeem the Time

- Apply God's Principles daily
- Be sobered by God's Perspective

Ephesians 5:15-17

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, *because the days are evil.*

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

How to Redeem the Time

- Apply God's Principles daily
- Be sobered by God's Perspective
- Embrace God's Priorities

Ephesians 5:15-17

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, *making the best use of the time*, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak...

(Colossians 4:3-6 ESV)

... Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, *making the best use* of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

(Colossians 4:3-6 ESV)

Ephesians 5:18

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.

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And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but *be filled with the Spirit.*

“...it is a serious mistake to suppose that to be filled with the Spirit of Jesus Christ is a kind of spiritual inebriation in which we lose control of ourselves. On the contrary, ‘self-control’ is the final quality named as ‘the fruit of the Spirit’ in Galatians 5:22-23. Under the influence of the Holy Spirit we do not lose control; we gain it.”

(Stott, *Bible Speaks Today: Ephesians*, p. 204)

“Being filled with the Spirit means to be filled with the immediate presence of God to the extent that you are feeling what God Himself feels, desiring what God desires, doing what God wants, speaking by God’s power, praying and ministering in God’s strength, and knowing with the knowledge that God Himself gives.” ~ Wayne Grudem

Ephesians 5:19-21

addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:19-21

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BIG IDEA

We don't have to live the same day over and over again because the Holy Spirit can empower real change in our lives.