

INTRODUCE

Well, if you have your Bibles, and I hope you do,

- please grab them and turn to Ephesians chapter 5.
- You can open a phone or a tablet to Ephesians 5,
- or you can use one of the hard-backed black bibles
 - under every single chair.
 - You'll find Ephesians 5 on page **978**.

INTRODUCTION: DRINKING

Question: Is it appropriate for Christians to drink alcohol?

This is a debated topic!

- It's very clear in the Bible that alcohol IS NOT prohibited.
- It's also very clear in the Bible that drunkenness IS prohibited.

EXAMPLES

Drunkenness is a cause of some of the worst moments in scripture.

Noah, in Genesis chapter 9,

- after he gets off the ark, the text says,
 - he planted a vineyard,
 - drank of the wine
 - and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent.
- So, that's who's repopulating the earth after the flood...
- drunk and naked Noah.

In 2 Samuel 11 we find the story of David and Bathsheba,

- and in verse 13 when David is trying to cover his tracks,
- he gets Bathsheba's husband, Uriah,
- to come back from the battlefield,
- and the text says
 - David invited him to eat and drink,
 - so that he made him drunk.
- This was all in hopes that Uriah would go home,
- sleep with his wife,
- and David would be off the hook for the illegitimate pregnancy.
- Uriah didn't go,
- so, David had him killed.

Lot's daughters, in Genesis 19,

- after escaping from Sodom and Gomorrah,
- realize they have no children...heirs...so they say,
 - *"Come, let us make our father drink wine,*
 - *and we will lie with him,*
 - *that we may preserve offspring from our father."*
- So, both girls get him drunk on consecutive nights,
- and both are impregnated by their father.

Still think the Bible is boring? And safe for the whole family?

I actually know a pastor who says that drinking beer is fine, but drinking light beer is a sin...so take that as you will...

TRANSITION

Now, I bring all this up,

- because today in Ephesians
- we find one of the key verses on drunkenness in the Bible...

BUT...

- if we take it to ONLY mean DON'T GET DRUNK
- we will miss what Paul is really driving at.

So, let's get going. Ephesians 5. Let's pick it up in verse 15:

EPHESIANS 5:15-17

[15] Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, [16] making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. [17] Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

EXPLAIN: COMPARE & CONTRAST

So, Paul's been going off...on how Christian behavior should look.

- He's been comparing and contrasting...
 - the way we behaved before Christ saved us...
 - to how we ought to behave now that we are in Christ.

So, he's said things like:

- put off your old self and put on the new self.
- At one time you were darkness...
 - but now you are light in the Lord.
- Awake, O sleeper, arise from the dead!

And now he continues with:

- Don't be unwise, but wise.
- Don't be foolish, but understand.

But I want you to know...

- that I think the whole key
- to what Paul is trying to do in this text
- is verse 18.

He contrasts being filled by the Spirit to getting drunk with wine.

So, look at verse 18:

EPHESIANS 5:18

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

EXPLAIN: DRUNK

Now, let's be clear...this is a strange thing to thrust in the middle of this.

- Don't you get drunk on wine...
- but get drunk on the Ghost.

I mean, it's just a strange comparison!

So, I think we need to ask the question: why do people get drunk on wine?

Now, there's a lot of reasons, but just to name a few:

- Sometimes people get drunk...
 - to borrow a drinking term,
 - to have "*happy hour.*"
 - They drink because it makes them feel happy.

- Sometimes people get drunk...
 - to decompress from stress,
 - or to numb pain.
 - To make what is gnawing at our hearts...
 - just go away for a little bit.
- Other people get drunk...
 - because they don't like their personality,
 - and they feel less inhibited when they're drunk.

And those things are all true!

- Drinking can make you happy...
- and drinking can numb your feelings...
- and drinking can alter your personality.

But the text says,

- *“Don't pursue those things in alcohol...”*
 - because they will only last for a few hours,
 - only to bring about greater pain
 - on the other side of that drunkenness.
- *“But instead, be filled by the Spirit,”*
 - who can do those same things,
 - but can lead to the fullness of joy!

POINT: FILLED

So, this is one of the weirdest comparisons in scripture.

- And if we're not careful,
- we'll just take this as the *“don't get drunk”* passage.

WHICH IS NOT HIS MAIN POINT!

Paul's main point is: **SLIDE BE FILLED**

- This text is less about wine...
- and more about the Holy Spirit.

TRANSITION

So, what does it mean to be FILLED by the Holy Spirit?

Well, in order to answer that question we have to do some back work.

- Now, I'm gonna do a little history and theology here,
- but we have to if we're to understand what Paul's doing.

So, let's get after it! Stay with me...there's payoff in the end.

HISTORY

In 1901 there was a movement called the Pentecostal Revival...

- you may have heard of Pentecostal churches?
- This was their birthplace.

An offshoot of this movement...

- which became much more widespread in America
 - in the 1960s and 1970s,
- was more generally called the "charismatic movement."

But in both movements,

- there was a distinct theology known as
- the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.
 - And over the last 50-years,
 - this doctrine has become wildly popular world-wide!

EXPLAIN: BAPTISM

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is traditionally understood like this:

- AFTER a person is converted...that is,
 - After they're saved...
 - After they surrender to Jesus...
 - After they become a Christian...
- At some point AFTER that conversion...
 - they will have a second experience,
 - or second blessing,
 - or second baptism of the Holy Spirit...

And this second experience will make...

- prayer and Bible more effective.
- They have new joy in worship,
- and even receive new spiritual gifts,
 - most frequently the gift of speaking in tongues.

Now, this IS NOT the traditional Christian view...

- that one is completely filled with the Holy Spirit
 - AT their conversion...
 - NOT at some point AFTER their conversion.

Ok...biblically, this doctrine of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

- originates primarily in Acts chapter 19.
- Let's look at this together...Acts 19

SLIDE ACTS 19:1-3

[1] And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. [2] And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” [3] And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John’s baptism.”

So, that’s John the Baptist.

- These disciples were baptized in John’s baptism,
- and here’s what John the Baptist said in Mark 1:8:

SLIDE MARK 1:8

[8] I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

So, John said his baptism wasn’t enough.

- And Paul explains as much...
- in the next verse in Acts 19:

SLIDE ACTS 19:4

[4] And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.”

Ok, so John's baptism...

- was a baptism of repentance...
- NOT A BAPTISM OF SALVATION.

That's important. Acts 19:5...

SLIDE ACTS 19:5-6

[5] On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. [6] And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.

EXPLAIN

So, these Ephesians disciples had been baptized in John's baptism.

- They had repented of their sins...
- and they had been trying to follow God's ways.
- But they had hit a wall.
 - Why?

Because they never had the Holy Spirit!

But why didn't they have the Spirit?

- Because, this had all happened before Christ's death,
- resurrection,
- and the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church on Pentecost.

So...

- They were trying to let their actions control their hearts,
- instead of a new heart changing their actions.

Anyone ever experience that? Yeah...that experience is very common!

TRANSITION

Well, this is the primary place where this doctrine is created.

And it resonates, because we experience something similar!

- BUT...we find no other SUBSTANTIAL support for this doctrine
- in the rest of the New Testament.

The only other place where Paul even gets close to mentioning it is 1 Corinthians 12. He says...

SLIDE 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12–13b

[12] For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. [13] For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body

So, there it is!

- The only place Paul even comes close
- to mentioning a baptism of the Holy Spirit...
- but here he's talking about salvation!
 - He's not talking about a second filling after salvation.
- He's saying we were all brought into this family...
 - into this body...
 - by the Spirit!

BLANK SLIDE

EXPLAIN: AT CONVERSION

So, here's our doctrine and belief:

SLIDE YOU ARE FILLED with the Holy Spirit AT conversion.

- When a person goes from death to life...
 - from sinner to saint...
 - from darkness to light...
- they receive the Holy Spirit of God
- AT THAT MOMENT!

But often we experience what those guys in Acts 19 experienced.

There ARE those moments...

- when *“God becomes more real to you”*
- and it might cause you to wonder...
 - *“Was I REALLY saved before this?”*
 - *Is this some sort of second baptism?”*

Because...some of you don't really know WHEN you got saved...

Some of you were raised in the church,

- and you can't remember the specific day
- when you trusted in Jesus for salvation.

While others of you CAN...

- You CAN point to the exact moment and time
- when you gave your life to Christ...
- made that decision...
- and everything changed.

ILLUSTRATION: ME, MARYSE, & HARPER

I didn't get saved until High School...

- it was the summer before my Junior year of High School...
- I when I was on a mission trip
 - with the youth group I'd been hanging around at.
- And I was sitting on a boat...
- and I clearly remember praying,
 - *"God, I have made a mess of my life...help me."*
- And the Holy Spirit fell...
- and I have been unable to recover.

I mean, I freaked out!

- Ask my friends...
 - I started bringing my Bible to school with me...
- I became known as Bible Boy at my public high school.
- I literally went from being the stoner
 - who smoked weed
 - out by the dumpsters...
- to being this radical Christian.

Now, my wife, Maryse, is the opposite.

- She is, hear me, zealous for God...
 - a ferocious follower of Christ!
- AND...she has had no such moment.

She's just kind of always believed.

- Praise God!
- She's had the Spirit that whole time.

Goodness, that's my prayer for my little Harper.

- Harper "prayed the prayer" last year on this exact day.
 - I know it because I put it
 - as a reoccurring event reminder on my calendar.
- So, does she have the Spirit?
- Is she saved?
- We'll see...but maybe she is!

POINT: FILLED

So theologically, what do we do with those moments...

- when "*God becomes more real to you*"?
- If they aren't a Baptism of the Holy Spirit...
- then what are they?

Well, here's where we get back to Ephesians.

We believe that when you are saved by Jesus Christ,

- **YOU ARE FILLED** with the Holy Spirit.
 - You receive the Holy Spirit at conversion.
 - **YOU ARE FILLED.**
- But we also believe that from that moment on...
 - **ADD SLIDE YOU CAN BE FILLED** by the Holy Spirit
 - over and over and over again.

Now, it's not that he's goes and comes...no, the Spirit never leaves you!

- But **YOU CAN BE FILLED**...
- again and again and again and again and again.

ILLUSTRATION: BALLOON

Don't think of this like a glass with liquid...and once you're full, you're full.

But rather, think of a balloon.

- When is a balloon filled?
 - When there's air in it.
- But can a balloon still be filled?
 - Yes it can!

YOU ARE FILLED & YOU CAN BE FILLED.

TRANSITION

So, while I DO NOT believe in a second baptism that should be sought...

- I DO believe that there are fillings of the Holy Spirit
- that should be sought daily.

I'll show it to you. Back to Ephesians chapter 5, verse 18 once again.

EPHESIANS 5:18

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

EXPLAIN: GRAMMAR

So, I think being filled with the Spirit...

- is the best way to explain those "second experiences"
- that some people experience today
 - (or third or fourth or fifth for that matter).

And it's also why we don't re-baptize you every time you "feel" one of them.

Now, when Paul says *"be filled"*

- he is using a **present tense imperative verb**.
 - And all the English teachers gave a shout of praise!
- That present tense imperative verb
- could more explicitly be translated,
 - ***"Be continually being filled with the Holy Spirit,"***
- thus implying that this is something
- that should be repeatedly happening to Christians.

YOU ARE FILLED & YOU CAN BE FILLED.

TRANSITION

Now, how? How does this happen?

- Well, I think there are four ways given in this text.
- There are more, but Paul gives us four.

And I want you to think about these four things

- **as actions...**
- **that will help us get ourselves positioned...**
- **to be filled by the Holy Spirit.**

Ok?

- **These four things don't guarantee being filled,**
 - **but they put you in the place...**
 - **where filling can occur,**
 - **so, when the Spirit does move,**
 - **you get filled.**

Matt Chandler calls this **getting ourselves under the faucet.**

- It doesn't turn the faucet on.
- It just puts us under it,
- so that if God,
 - in his mercy,
- would turn it on,
- we'll get drenched.

Alright?

So, the four, look at verse 19:

EPHESIANS 5:19-21

[19] addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, [20] giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, [21] submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

FAUCET 1: ADDRESSING

Four faucets. First one: **SLIDE ADDRESSING** one another

- in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs.

Now, this doesn't mean we just kinda do church life like a musical...right?

- It's not like we Hamilton one-another
- and just sing our greetings in the hallway!
 - *"Good morning Pastor Chris!"*
- Like FATHOM THE MUSICAL or something!

No, this is the horizontal dimension that happens in formal worship.

This means that...

- as we sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
- we are actually addressing one another.
- We teach and admonish one another in this way.

And I just want to point out that Paul doesn't say,

- *“addressing one another in sermons,*
- *and bible studies,*
- *and teachings.”*

Right?

This doesn't really bode well for my occupation...

But Paul actually kinda downplays formal preaching as a gift.

- He says things like,
 - *“When I came to you,*
 - *I didn't come with wise and persuasive words...”*
- I mean, it's almost like he'd be like,
 - *“Dang it!*
 - *I was wise and persuasive!*
 - *I shouldn't do that!”*

No, here Paul is saying:

- *“As we sing songs,*
 - *we're actually addressing one-another...*
- *and as we do so...*
 - *members of the church...*
 - *are continually being filled by the Spirit.”*

I always say it,

- but nobody's humming my sermons
 - on the way to their cars after church.
- But they are humming the theology taught in our songs.

So, this is the first faucet to get under. ADDRESSING one another in song.

FAUCET 2: SINGING

The second faucet: **SLIDE SINGING**

- and making melody to the Lord with your heart.

Now, this one is closely associated with the first one.

- But this singing is the vertical aspect.
- Hear me:
 - there is a joy
 - that just explodes out of the heart
 - when we sing to the Lord with our hearts.

Now, that can look a thousand different ways. Ok?

- How one person shows joy in worship
- can look totally different from another.

Seriously, I know guys who explode with joy, and look like this.

- "Hmmm..."
- I'm just so happy right now...
- hmmm..."

I mean I know guys like that.

- In fact, I think it was Edwards who said,
 - "There's a joy that brings seriousness."

And then I know guys who are the complete opposite...

- they've gotta get their hands up
- and they've gotta shout
- and they've gotta clap!

But there's just something about singing...

- that elevates more than words or prose...

There's just something about singing...

- from the heart to the Lord.

That's why it's so heartbreaking...

- when some of you show up AFTER the first couple of songs,
- or use the back half of our services
 - as a reason to get out of here
 - and get to lunch quickly.

You take yourself out from under the faucet...

- We have come here to worship the living God,
 - to interact with the living God,
 - to experience the living God,
 - to get ourselves under that faucet...
- in hopes he'll turn it on.

FAUCET 3: THANKING

Ok, faucet number three: **SLIDE THANKING**

The text says **giving thanks ALWAYS and for EVERYTHING.**

Now, this is nice and tidy here with Thanksgiving coming up this week.

But this is so important church:

- Prayer is not just the list of things...
 - that we are asking from God.
- It is, often times, the list of things...
 - that God has provided for us.

It's gratitude.

It's thankfulness.

ILLUSTRATION: MARY

We lived with my in-laws for 6-months while we renovated our home.

- Which I would not recommend...
- even if you love your in-laws...
- a lot...
- like we do.
- Leave and cleave, baby!

But when we lived there,

- I would be up early,
- and my mother-in-law, Mary, would be up early.
 - I guess Maryse got more of Royce in her
 - when it comes to early mornings.

But Mary would faithfully,

- every morning,
- drink her coffee
- and spend time in God's word,
- AND THEN she would write things down in her journal.

She calls it her thankful journal.

- And she has,
 - for hundreds and hundreds of days in a row...
 - for years and years...
- she has written down prayers of thanksgiving to God.

You think that's not bearing fruit in her life in the Spirit?

Younger gals in here...

- that's why you need to be involved...
 - in Women's Ministry at Fathom!
- So you can learn from women
 - with decades of experience!

FAUCET 4: SUBMITTING

ADDRESSING, SINGING, THANKING, and finally,

SLIDE SUBMITTING to one another.

Now, this is a springboard for the next bunch of verses, which we'll cover next week.

- We'll see submission in the marriage relationship,
- in the child/parent relationship,
- and in the workplace.

But I do want you to note that Paul launches into mutual submission as a way we are to be filled.

- God has offered divinely ordered relationships...
 - to be marked by submission.
- And this is a faucet under which one can be filled.

Now, did you notice that two of these are horizontal and two are vertical?

- ADDRESSING one-another
- and SUBMITTING to one-another...horizontal.
- But SINGING to God
- and THANKING God...vertical.

TRANSITION

So, listen y'all...this is what we ought to desire as Christians.

- I want to be filled with the Holy Spirit
 - again and again and again and again.
 - I want more air in my balloon!
- So, I try to line myself up...
- and to get myself underneath the faucet.

SLIDE W/PADS YOU ARE FILLED & YOU CAN BE FILLED

CONCLUSION

So, for some of you, listen,

- you may NOT actually believe.
- You may NOT have surrendered your life to Jesus for salvation.

And the invitation for you today is to believe.

- Believe on Christ,
- and be filled with the Holy Spirit today!

We'll be in the back of the room during worship after this...

if you want to come, talk, and pray with someone.

But for those of us who do believe...

- here's how I think we need to grow,
 - both individually and as a congregation.
- I think when we come and we gather on the weekends...
- we need to be better prepared to be filled.

Can I tell you what God does when we gather?

Here are just a couple of things I personally know.

- God saves people.
 - Do you know how crazy that is?
 - People come into our doors.
 - They're not believers in the gospel,
 - Haven't experienced the life change Christ brings,
 - and God meets them and rescues them here.
- God heals people here.
- God exposes sin here.
- God stirs up affections in here.
- God changes lives in here.

And he does it when we come together and make much of him.

- Why is there so little anticipation about getting here?
- Why isn't there an ongoing anticipation...
 - for what God might do among us as we gather?
- You would think we'd be in a rush to get here,
 - try to find a good seat just to see what he might do,
 - to get ourselves under the faucet...
 - in the hopes that he might turn it on!

YOU ARE FILLED & YOU CAN BE FILLED

I pray that our anticipation might build for him to show up in mightier and mightier ways.

- Don't get drunk with wine...
- but be filled with the Holy Spirit.

My hope is that we'd get better at positioning ourselves under the faucet...

With the expectation that he'd turn it on.

Let's pray.

RESPONSES:

Well, every week at Fathom we respond in 4 ways:

- COMMUNION – THE LORD’S SUPPER
- GIVING TITHES & OFFERINGS – fathomchurch.org/give
- PRAYER - fathomchurch.org/prayer
- SINGING

So, I’m going to read the Words of Institution from the Apostle Paul, we’ll take communion, and then we’ll sing:

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23–26 – WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[23] For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **TAKE**

[25] In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **TAKE**

[26] For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Love you church, let’s stand and sing together.

RESOURCES USED:

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