

## 03 | How to Stay Filled

Filled with the Spirit and Power

[00:00:11] Hi and welcome back to Walks with God: Filled with the Spirit and Power! Today's teaching is how to stay filled. And let me tell you, it is key. We do not want to live this life of a Spirit filled believer with our tanks dry, feeling depleted, run down, overwhelmed, and stressed out. We need to be filled and we need to stay filled, and scripture talks about being filled. But it talks about being filled in the sense that this is an ongoing thing, that we need to continually be filled with the Holy Spirit. There is a one time baptism with the Holy Spirit that you can receive. But then after that, it's up to you to keep yourself and help others stay filled with the Holy Spirit. We're going to look at some scripture today, potentially a little bit more than what we're used to. But this is an important topic, and we want to know what the Word has to say about this. [00:01:08][57.2]

[00:01:09] So today we're going to begin in Ephesians 5:18-20, reading from the new King James version. "And do not be drunk with wine, which is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing

and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ." You'll notice that "but be filled with the spirit" is attached to "speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord... Singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ." I'm going to read something to you that was an early church practice. In fact, it was something that Paul would eventually have to address in 1 Corinthians 14, and we'll get into that. But an early church practice was everybody would come and everybody would have a psalm and a teaching, and everybody would have a tongue or a prophecy. They understood from Ephesians 5, that this is how we come together and get filled and stay filled. 1 Corinthians 14:14 says, "For if I pray in a tongue, my Spirit prays. But my understanding is unfruitful. What is the conclusion then? I will pray in the Spirit, and I will pray also with the understanding. I will sing in the Spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding." Verse 18 says, "I thank, my God, I speak in tongues more than you all." Verse 26 says, "How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification." Verse 39 says, "Therefore, brethren desire earnestly

to prophesy and do not forbid to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order.". [00:03:21][131.5]

[00:03:21] Notice Paul says two things here, that all things be done for edification and let all things be done decently and in order. This was a spirit filled church full of zeal and passion in the Holy Spirit. And they were coming together and Paul was having to address the way some things were happening. Some things in the church had become disorderly, and it wasn't for the edification of everyone. So Paul had to address these things, and we'll get into that in a minute. But I want you to notice something that the early church understood. They understood the power of singing to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in their heart to the Lord, giving things always for all things to God, the Father in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. They understood the power of coming together with a psalm, teaching, tongue, revelation and an interpretation. It just at one point had gotten out of hand and Paul had to correct it. And some people look at that and they just think, "This is messy. I don't want anything to do with it." Or, "Look, there they were behaving like that." But even Paul was telling them "It's not right and that's not true." Paul's just saying there's a way that you do this where it's orderly and it's for the edification of all. And this is so key! This is a key passage to understand the reason why the early church walked in such

power, walked in such confidence. And we saw such miracles, signs and wonders on the regular. This was a practice that they understood. They understood how to come together and get filled, to fill one another up, to stay filled and the importance of it which is very key. [00:04:53][91.7]

[00:04:53] So we're going to look now at a passage of scripture that I believe has been very misunderstood and taught even wrong at times. But let's go ahead and do some reading today, if you don't mind. We're going to read the entire chapter of 1 Corinthians 14. And I may as we go, skip a few passages, but let's start at the beginning and read all the way to the end, shall we? 1Corinthians 14:1

"Pursue love and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy for he who speaks in a tongue, does not speak to men, but to God. For no one understands him. However, in the Spirit he speaks mysteries. But he who prophesies, speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself. But he who prophesies edifies the church." Notice right here speaking in a tongue edifies yourself. You're edifying yourself, or we could say you're filling yourself up. You're keeping yourself filled and empowered and edified. Paul goes on to say, "I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied, for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks in a tongue. Unless (and this is key) indeed he interprets that the church may receive edification." Some people

stop and say, "See who prophesies is better than he who speaks to the tongue." But Paul says, "Unless!". Did you know it's okay to come and speak in a tongue? As long as what follows is an interpretation. And Paul said right here, unless he interprets that the church may receive that edification. The one who speaks in a tongue, can give an interpretation, and then it becomes edifying and exhorting to those around as well. You can exhort somebody by speaking in a tongue. You can edify somebody else by speaking in a tongue as long as what follows is an interpretation. Moving on to verse six, "But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by a revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying or by teaching." Can I tell you, when I minister, I oftentimes speak in tongues. I pray in tongues as I am ministering, as I'm teaching the word, as I'm preaching the word in my house church. I'll oftentimes say, "Let's pray in the spirit" or as I'm teaching, as I'm preaching, I'll just stop and I'll pray in the spirit. Because you know what? Oftentimes what follows is revelation. Knowledge. Prophecy. Teaching. "But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what shall I profit you unless either by a revelation, knowledge or a prophecy, or by teaching." "Unless I speak to you by one of these four things revelation, knowledge, prophecy, or teaching." Let's move on. Verse seven, "Even things without life, whether flute or harp, when they make a

sound, unless they make a distinction in the sounds. How will it be known what is piped or played?" Again, it's not saying not to do it, it just says there has to be a distinction in what was just said. "For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle? So likewise you unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken?" So a word of understanding has to follow a word of tongues. "For you will be speaking into the air. There are it may be so many kinds of languages in the world, and none of them is without significance. Therefore, if I do not know the meaning of the language, I shall be a foreigner to him who speaks and he who speaks will be a foreigner to me. Even so, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel. Therefore, let him who speaks in the tongue, pray that he may interpret." We see it here again. If you are zealous for spiritual gifts and for the edification of a church, and you seek to excel the body of Christ through this gift of tongues, Paul is saying, "Go for it, speak in a tongue, but pray for an interpretation.". These passages of Scripture have been so misunderstood that people have just completely done away with it. And yet this was the early church's answer to staying filled with the Holy Spirit. [00:09:27]  
[273.4]

[00:09:28] Verse 14 says "For if I pray in a tongue, my Spirit prays." Boy, that's

powerful. "If I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the Spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding." Notice the conclusion is not to do away with praying in the Spirit. The conclusion is to continue praying in the Spirit. But also with your understanding. "I will sing in the Spirit and I will also sing with the understanding. Otherwise, if you bless with the Spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed, say amen that you are giving of things, since he does not understand what you say? For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified." But look what he goes on to say. "I thank, my God, I speak with tongues more than you all. Yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding that I may teach others also than 10,000 words in a tongue." And again, there's no interpretation. Paul is saying, "I'd rather prophesy. I'd rather teach with my understanding. I don't want to give a tongue that doesn't have an interpretation and leave the people wondering." But he just got done saying, "I speak in tongues more than you all did". He is not doing away with it. He's not saying it's not necessary or that it's not important or that he's not even putting it behind all these other gifts. He's not putting it behind teaching or putting it behind prophesying. He's just saying, "If you don't have an interpretation of the tongue, then it's better to prophesy." But Tongues is

not taking a backseat to any of these gifts. It's the way that you edify. It's the way that you exhort, it's the way that you encourage, as long as there is an interpretation of that tongue. It can be for exhortation and edification. And they prayed in the Spirit and they sang in the Spirit. And they stayed filled doing so. [00:11:11] [103.0]

[00:11:13] Moving on to verse 20, "Brethren, do not be children in understanding." A lot of people do -- they remain children in understanding these things. They haven't grasped what Paul is actually saying and they've just done away with it all. They don't have a mature understanding of what Paul is saying, "Brethren do not be children in understanding, however in malice be babes, but in understanding, be mature." Mature believers understand these things, but in understanding be mature. "In the Law is written with men of other tongues and other lips. I will speak to this people, and yet for all that they will not hear me, says the Lord. Therefore, tongues are for a sign not to those who believe, but to unbelievers. But prophesying is for those unbelievers, for those who believe. Therefore, if the whole church comes together in one place, all speak with tongues and there comes in those who are uninformed or unbelievers. Will they not say that you are out of your mind? But of all prophesy and a nonbeliever or an uninformed person comes in. He is convinced by all. He is convicted by all. And thus the secrets of



his heart are revealed. And so falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you." Let me explain this here what Paul is saying. He's speaking to a church who is zealous for the gifts and they were just firing off in tongues. And Paul was saying, "Hey, wait a minute, if somebody comes in and doesn't understand this, it's better for them to receive a prophecy." He's not putting the speaking in tongues in the back seat, but he is elevating prophecy to the front as equal with these gifts. Listen, if you're going to have somebody come in who doesn't know anything about anything that's going on, and all they hear is a bunch of people talking in tongues with no interpretation, Paul's saying it's better for them that you have a prophetic word. [00:13:03][110.8]

[00:13:05] Let's read about order and church meetings. "How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together. Each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or three at most, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church and let him speak to himself and to God. Let two or three prophets speak and let the others judge. But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged. And the spirits of the prophets

are subject to the prophets. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints." Let's skip down here to this last verse, 39 and 40.

"Therefore, brethren" Paul is addressing the way that the church needs to operate. He's putting things in order. They have gotten out of order. He's explaining to you the way a church service needs to happen. And they weren't real far off from the way they were doing it. But he said there has to be order. It has to be done decently. It has to be new and orderly, and it has to be done for the edification of all. And he ends this chapter by saying, "Therefore, brethren desire earnestly to prophesy and do not forbid to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently in order." Desire to prophesy! I almost wonder if they had gotten so filled with the spirit in speaking in tongues that they were neglecting the the spiritual gift of prophesying. So here you hear Paul say "I want you to desire to prophesy. It's important, but I don't want you to forbid to speak with tongues." Yes, we have desire to prophesy, but we do not forbid the speaking of tongues. It has to be done decently, and in order, and with an interpretation. But Paul is saying, do not forbid it! This is part of it. "Let all things be done, let all of these things be done decently and in order.". [00:15:18][132.5]

[00:15:19] Why did I read all that to you? Because once again, this is a model of the early church. This is an example that the

early church modeled for us. This was something that scripture explained to us. It's a way to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Let me listen to this one right here from Ephesians, "singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.". Can I tell you, for me personally, this is the number one way that I stay filled. I wake up and this was a practice that I had to develop early in my walk. I was born and raised in the church, but early in my walk with the Lord as I got serious, I came out of a season in the world that I gave my life to Jesus, and I got serious. And early in my walk I had to develop these practices and these principles. I had to really work on it. I had to make myself get up, set my alarm, and pray and spend time in the word. But can I tell you now, when I wake up, it is as natural as breathing. I wake up and I do this very thing, making melody in my heart, I sing to the Lord. "Oh, glory to God, I love you, Jesus, I love you, Jesus." I begin to give thanks for all things to God, the Father. "Oh, thank you, Lord Jesus. Thank you for my beautiful wife. Thank you for my health. Thank you that you have given me, you have given me over to the ministry which I have desired for so long to be a part of." And I just begin to thank, God, for all the things that are on my heart, "I thank you, Lord, that you use me to reach the lost, that you give me a word for somebody in need, that you

use me to prophesy", and I just begin to give thanks and I sing. I'm not going to sing for you guys right now, but I sing in the morning every day. I sing songs to Jesus. And then when I minister, when I minister in my house churches and to other leaders and other people in the body of Christ, more often than not, when we get together for a prayer meeting we're singing! We're singing over one another, we're singing to the Lord, and we're praying and we're making melody in our hearts. And we fill ourselves. We feel the spirit just filling up inside of us. And then pretty soon we're just praying in our Holy Spirit, praying in our holy language. And boy, I got to tell you, that is the way that you want to live this life. [00:17:37][137.8]

[00:17:37] You want to stay filled, always singing, always giving, thanks to God, the Father for all things and edifying your brothers and sisters. Listen, this walk is hard enough as it is. Being a Christian in today's world, walking in a manner worthy of the calling with which you recall being pleasing to your Lord, being a good husband, being a good wife, being a good mother, a good father, a good employee, a good neighbor, a good son. These are all things that can be very difficult at times. But let me tell you, when you're filled with the spirit, the spirit is what comes out. And you want the spirit to come out in everything that you do. So praise God He has given us scripture! He has given us words. He has given us ways that we can be filled and stay

filled, and that we can help one another stay filled. We can do this together. We can do this for our brothers and sisters. And I encourage you, if you see a brother or sister and they're down, they seem to be lagging, they seem to be down in the dumps or depressed, overwhelmed or stressed, burned out, worn out, where they don't even know how they feel sometimes, and they don't even know if they believe. Pray over them! Sing over them! Pray that the Lord will fill them afresh, help them to receive a fresh in feeling, and teach them to stay filled and to walk in this. Using this early church model, you can't go wrong with the churches that were planted by the apostles that walked with Jesus himself. Amen. All right. Well, glory to God. We give you thanks, we give you praise. And we love you, Lord Jesus, you are everything to us. Use these teachings, use these videos to help and empower the body to exhort and edify and build up your people. Lord Jesus, build up your saints, Lord God, to do the work of the ministry in Jesus name. Amen. Love you guys. And we will see you again for the next video. [00:17:37][0.0]  
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