

“Be Filled with the Holy Spirit”

Ephesians 5:18

INTRODUCTION

What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit? And how do I actually walk in the Spirit on a daily basis?

The Battle Within

He IS Saving You!

Past Tense Salvation—He HAS saved you from the PENALTY of sin (Romans 5:1)

Present Tense Salvation—He IS saving you from the POWER of sin (Titus 2:11-12)

Future Tense Salvation—He WILL save you from the PRESENCE of sin (1 Peter 1:3-6)

We as evangelicals tend to really focus on the idea that we are saved by grace, through faith in regard to our past tense and future tense salvation, but when it comes to the middle... we tend to view more as “works”.

How He IS Saving You

1. Through the Discipline of the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 12:7)
2. Christ is IN you (Colossians 1:27; 1:19; 2:9)
3. He has crucified our “flesh” (Galatians 2:20; 5:24)
4. He empowers us by His Spirit (Ephesians 5:18; Romans 8:13)

How We Access This Present-Tense Salvation

By F_____ (Galatians 2:20). Paul said that the life flowing through him was not by hard effort, or spiritual disciplines, or passion, or zeal but by *faith*.

Faith is not simply belief. One can believe something with no faith (James 2:19). One way of thinking about the relationship between faith and belief is that faith is belief *applied*.

Now, true faith always W_____ (James 2:14).

What action steps will I begin to take when I have faith to believe the above doctrinal truths?

1. The Discipline of the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 12:7)
I will reject discouragement, complaining, confusion, and choose JOY and GRATITUDE (James 1:2-4)
2. Christ is IN you (Colossians 1:27; 1:19; 2:9)
I will have HOPE.
3. He has crucified our flesh (Galatians 2:20; 5:24)
I will say NO MERCY to my flesh (Colossians 3:5).
4. He empowers us by His Spirit (Ephesians 5:18; Romans 8:13; 13:14)
I will DEPEND FULLY on the Spirit even as I choose to PUT OFF-PUT ON in practical ways.

Have you been filled with the Holy Spirit?

Questions for Group Discussion/Personal Reflection

1. What comes to mind when you realize that all the fullness of God is in Christ (Colossians 1:19) and Christ is in you (Colossians 1:27)?
2. How does it impact you to think that your flesh was dealt a mortal wound at the cross? Why does it still seem so strong sometimes?
3. What areas of your flesh are you still feeding, comforting, even enjoying?
4. What might it look like to “no longer make provision for the flesh” (Romans 13:14) in these areas? Get very practical in answering this question.
5. Review the theological truths surrounding our present-tense salvation. Which ones are the hardest for you to move from a head-knowledge belief to heart-felt faith? Ask God for faith to believe and meditate on Scriptures that teach this truth.
6. If you haven’t already, consider getting some alone time with God and ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit. You may consider this progression of thought and heart:
 - Hunger to be filled (this may require a season of fasting from media, food, etc)
 - Confess, repent, and grieve your sin (Psalm 51)
 - Ask Him to fill you (Luke 11:13)
 - Receive this by faith (Galatians 2:20)
 - Obey everything He tells you to do