

Ephesians 5:18-21

“Spirit-Filled”

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subject: being filled with the Spirit

objective: live under the control of the Holy Spirit

“And do not be drunk with wine, in 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, submitting to one another in the fear of God.” (Ephesians 5:18-21)

I. being filled with the Spirit means allowing Him to be in control (18b)

A. the Spirit is a Person

B. the Spirit makes me more like Jesus

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

C. the Spirit fills me as I surrender to Him

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.” (Galatians 5:16-17)

II. being filled with the Spirit is inhibited when I allow myself to be controlled by other influences (18a)

A. Biblical principles which govern all our behavior

1. our bodies are not our own (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

2. we don't want to do anything that could inhibit the Spirit's work in us (1 Thessalonians 5:19)

3. just because something is legal doesn't mean we should do it (1 Corinthians 6:12)

4. we want to bring glory to God in everything we say and do (1 Corinthians 10:31)

5. we don't want to do anything that might have a negative impact on someone else's faith (Romans 14:13)

Discussion Question:

What other influences might people be tempted to allow to fill (control) them?

A. steps to be filled with the Spirit

1. confess & repent of the sin I'm aware of
2. pray & ask Him to reveal the sin I'm not aware of
3. live in obedience to God

III. being filled with the Spirit transforms my life (19-21)

- A. He improves my relationship with God
- B. He improves my relationships with others