

WALK CAREFULLY

This past Tuesday night I witnessed one of the most powerful baptisms ever. There were 4 women and around 17 men. The presence of the Holy Spirit was in the room powerfully!

It started when a young man was reading about Jesus' baptism and Jason asked him to read it out loud. As he read the power of God fell and he couldn't hardly read for crying

Muslim saved because God visited him there, another didn't believe in God until he witnessed it in jail

Another man said the scales had fallen off his eyes like Paul

Their zeal was quite contagious and their love, support, excitement, and cheering one another on was totally refreshing!

In my prayer time the next morning, I was thanking the Lord for what I had the privilege to witness and be a part of. The Lord said this is the response the church should have when we witness His hand moving on people!

We never know what kind of hell the Lord just rescued someone out of that they have been trapped in their whole life

Church, we must walk carefully, we need to live a life that encourages the fullness of the Spirit and not one that limits Him!

Eph 3:19-20 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

Eph 5:15-21 See then that you walk ¹⁴circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, ¹⁶redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual

songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of ^[b]God.

Those men in the jail kept saying the other night, “I’m exchanging my old life for a new one. I’m going to be a new man”

Church, if we don’t walk careful, we run the risk of returning to or becoming something or someone we never thought we would be!

v. 15

Walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise – that means walk with caution and sensitivity as walking through the thorny terrain

The difference between believers and unbelievers is one walks wisely and the other foolishly

v. 16

Acknowledge times are changing and their very nature is evil

You can only know and live wisely by understanding God’s will and walking in the Spirit

Redeem the time: redeem the time by using it wisely, capitalize on every ordained opportunity

I’m glad I didn’t miss that baptism Tuesday night. Time is a precious gift and must be handled wisely.

Time is short, time is passing, our remaining time is uncertain, time cannot be regained. We’re accountable to God for our time and time has no value in eternity

Listen church, the time is coming when we won’t have any more time!

Col 3:23,24

Don't waste another moment. The time to seek and serve the Lord is now. When time runs out there will be no more excuses

v. 17, 18

Our source of wise living is to reject the foolish things that seek to intoxicate us and become our stronghold that robs us of wisdom and understanding

The Holy Spirit is the only One Who can help us live wisely, every counterfeit this world offers is just that, leaving you empty and void of God's best for you

Embrace being continuously filled with the Spirit. He will fill you over and over and over again. Why? Because the Holy Spirit is to influence all aspects of our lives, overflowing in every relationship, calling, ministry, and home!

Holy Spirit filled means He also enhances our worship which includes our very own personal prayer language, tongues

v. 19-21

Look how a spirit-filled life expresses itself

Church, when you're spirit filled it cannot be stopped, it's a by-product of the infilling so we worship our King!

Also another expression is we demonstrate an attitude of constant and continual gratitude for all things He has done

And finally, we have this ability to walk in mutual submission to one another out of our great reverence for our King!

I'm so thankful when I'm filled with the Spirit. I'm filled with the wisdom of God, the love of God, the holiness of God, the zeal of God and the brokenness of God that produces a hunger for God and releases the awe and wonder of God!

We must walk carefully, church. It's so easy to take for granted His great love, mercy and closeness and quickly it can be gone

I know this day is to honor my wife and I but this is my prayer today – Lord, help Tammy and I lead ourselves and CFA to a place where we never lose our awe and wonder of who You are and what You are able to do!

Walk carefully, church!

