

The Holy Spirit Filling the Believer

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I. Introduction.

- A. To live a whole life, one must be filled with the Spirit.
- B. Text: Ephesians 5:15-25.
- C. Wise men and women are filled with the Spirit; unwise men and women are filled with other influences.

II. The command to be filled with the Spirit.

- A. This is bringing every aspect of one's life in line with the will of the Spirit. It is submission.
- B. The indwelling of the Spirit is not sufficient. God wants us to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- C. Being filled is to be a continuous thing. (Acts 2, 4:31)
- D. We are purchased by Christ but not completely controlled by Him. We must allow the Spirit to fill us to control our life. (Luke 24:49)
- E. The believer's life is a supernatural life to be lived by a supernatural power since he has a supernatural enemy, the devil.

III. The requirements of being filled with the Spirit.

- A. A person must be saved.
- B. A person must have a real desire for the filling of the Spirit. (John 7:37-39)
- C. A person must be morally cleansed. (Ephesians 4:30, I Thessalonians 5:18)
 - 1. Genuine repentance is cleaned up.
 - 2. This does not mean that we will not have to deal with it again, but we continually repent when problems arise.
- D. A person must yield control lest he becomes a slave to sin. (Romans 6:16)
- E. A person must ask God.
- F. A person must trust that God will do it. (I John 5:14-15)

Application questions:

1. What does it mean to be filled by the Spirit as opposed to indwelt by the Spirit?

2. Why should one seek to be filled by the Spirit?

3. What can you do this week to pursue being filled by the Spirit more consciously in a practical and provable way?
