

**Series "Our Riches In Christ"**  
**"Walking In The Spirit"**  
**Ephesians 5:18-21**  
**Study-19**

**John 14:16-18**

"Helper" or "comforter" is the Greek word "parakletos" – "one that is summoned, called to one's side, called to one's aid, one who pleads another's cause before a judge, a pleader, assistant."

**1 Corinthians 14:32**

**Ephesians 1-3 – "Doctrine;" Ephesians 4-6 – "Duty," or "practice"**

**Ephesians 5:18-6:9 – Walking In Harmony**

**Thought Of The Passage:** "Evidence Of Being Spirit-Filled Is Being Joyful. It's Being Thankful And It's Being Submissive."

**1. Verse 18 – Contrast**

**2. Verse 18 – Command**

**3. Verses 19-21 – Consequences**

**1. Verse 18 – Contrast:**

Ephesians 5:18 – "And," – And what? Paul has just spoken about "Wisdom." Christians have received wisdom from God at conversion; they are to walk carefully, use the time given, and understand the will of God. We as Christians should not only know the will of God, but also understand it.

"And do not get drunk (intoxicate) with wine," – this would not be walking in wisdom. This would be walking in the flesh. "for that is dissipation," – literally "an abandoned, or beyond help, hopeless."

Proverbs 23:19-21, 29-35

Estimates for 2019 show that 18 million Americans struggle with alcohol. Of that number, it is estimated that 4 million are teens.

1 Corinthians 15:34

"but be filled with the Spirit," – to fill to the top: so that nothing shall be wanting, to full measure, fill to the brim.

Acts 2:13

After that parallel, the rest are contrasts – Negative and positive.

1. Someone under the influence of alcohol loses control. Drunk driving (under the influence); Bad judgments. The fruit of the Spirit is self-control. We gain control, we are no longer in bondage.

1 Corinthians 14:32

2. People under the influence will have personality changes; angry, happy, quiet, brave; Galatians 5:22-23.
3. The person under the influence of alcohol is under a depressant. Alcohol is a downer. The Holy Spirit is the opposite.
4. Some become theologians or wise philosophers, Proverbs 20:1.

The person under the influence of God's Spirit is able to receive real wisdom. Ephesians 1:17

It is of the old nature to get drunk, 1 Peter 4:3.

A sin that will keep a person out of the kingdom of God.,  
1 Corinthians 6:9-10.

The Bible forbids drunkenness. There are principles that are given in Scripture to govern our lives. **5 questions to ask ourselves:**

1. Is it necessary? They were limited to what they could drink, what about us?
2. Is it habit forming? Can it be enslaving?
3. Is it potentially destructive? 40% of all violent deaths are alcohol related. 50% of all traffic fatalities involve drivers under the influence. 1/4 of mental hospital patients are drinking related; Cirrhosis of the liver.
4. Will it offend other Christians? Will the liberty hurt another, Romans 14:15.
5. Will it harm my Christian testimony? What will non-believers think?

Is it right? If it bothers the conscience, it is not right.

## **2. Verse 18 – Command:**

Ephesians 5:18 – “but be filled with the Spirit,” – We are not to confuse the terms of “Baptism of the Holy Spirit,” with the “Filling of the Holy Spirit,” Acts 1:5; Acts 2:4; 1 Corinthians 12:13.

The Baptism of the Spirit – I belong to Christ’s body; Filling of the Holy Spirit – my body belongs to Christ.

“be filled with the Spirit!” – **It is speaking about 4 things:**

1. “filled” is in the Greek “imperative mode” which means it is a command. It is not an option for the child of God, 1 Corinthians 3:1-3.
2. Plural – “meant for all Christians.” It is not for some elite class of saints, but every believer is to be filled.

It is impossible to be Spirit-filled and live a carnal life at the same time. Being filled with the Spirit is “Moral” more than it is “Miraculous.”

3. Passive verb – “The Spirit does it;” The Holy Spirit wants to fill us, but our sin can hinder and hurt the Spirit of God, Ephesians 4:30.
4. Present tense – “Keep on being filled;” it is not for special occasions. We need the power of the Holy Spirit.

Being filled with the Holy Spirit simply means to be controlled by or yielded to the Holy Spirit.

## **3. Verses 19-21 – Consequences:**

Ephesians 5:19

**Paul gives 3 evidences of being filled with the Holy Spirit:**

1. **Being Joyful** – KJV “speaking to yourselves;” it should read “speaking to one another.”

“psalms” – of the O.T. put to music.

“and hymns” – songs of praise that give glory to the Lord.

“spiritual songs” – General songs that were prompted by the Holy Spirit that taught spiritual truth. This is really important. Worship should be enlightening.

“singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;” – Look at Christianity; it stands out above all religions of the world, as joyful, and filled with praise and worship, Colossians 3:16.

When people are born again, music is born again!

Psalm 42:8

1) The joy involves joy in the heart, 2) Joy towards others and 3) Joy in the Lord.

Ephesians 5:20

**2. Being Thankful** – “always giving thanks for all things,” – 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

“in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;” – We are to be thankful that God is in control. He is still calling the shots.

Trinity – “filled with the Spirit,” “our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;”

Ephesians 5:21

**3. Being Submissive** – “subject” – A Greek military term meaning “to arrange [troop divisions] in a military fashion under the command of a leader.” In non-military use, it was “a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating, assuming responsibility, and carrying a burden.”

**Application:** How To Be Filled With The Holy Spirit:

1. Cannot Be Filled With The Spirit Without Being A Child Of God: Can't ask for the power of the Spirit of God without being a child of God.
2. Cannot Be Filled With The Spirit If We Have Blatant Sin In Our Lives.
3. Cannot Be Filled With The Spirit Unless We Surrender And Yield To Jesus Christ.
4. In Order To Be Filled With The Spirit Of God, We Should Fill Ourselves With The Word Of God, We Should Be Continually Worshiping With Thankfulness To Jesus Christ.