

“The Spirit-Filled Life”

Ephesians 5:18b

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*“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation,
but be filled with the Spirit” [NASB]*

*“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess;
but be filled with the Spirit” [KJV]*

*“And do not get drunk with wine, which is debauchery,
but be filled by the Spirit” [NET]*

In Ephesians 5:18 Paul gives us the key truth as to how Christians can successfully fulfill all of God’s commands — it can happen only when believers are living Spirit-filled lives.

1. The Requirement to be Spirit-filled...it is **our**

responsibility!

- *a) For every Christian
- b) It requires obedience

2. The Reality of being Spirit-filled...it’s all about

control!

- a) “Filled” is the word *plarow*[*πληρωω*]; “to be controlled”

- b) Some people are “controlled” by alcohol
- c) Jesus’ Apostles were “filled / controlled” by sorrow (John 16:6)

3. The (w)rong view of being Spirit-filled:

- a) It is not **baptism** in the Spirit...that happens once, at salvation(1 Corinthians 12:13)
- b) It is not **indwelling** of the Spirit...that happens once, at salvation (Ephesians 1:13; Romans 8:9, 11)
- *c) **speaking in tongues**...not every Christian has this gift (1 Corinthians 12:30)

4. The Resources for being Spirit-filled...our **riches** in

Christ!

- a) The **indwelling** Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:16)
- b) The ongoing intake of the Word of God

“Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom, teaching, and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your heart to God” (Colossians 3:16)

“This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it, for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success” (Joshua 1:8)

“These words which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates” (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

The Word of God “is more desirable than gold ...sweeter also than honey” (Psalm 19:10)

“How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Thy Word...Thy Word have I treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against Thee...I will meditate on Thy Precepts...I shall not forget Thy Word” (Psalm 119:9, 11, 15, 16)

c) Fervent, regular, dynamic, biblical **prayer**
(Ephesians 6:18)

5. The Regularity of being Spirit-filled...it's an **ongoing** pursuit!

6. The Results of being Spirit-filled...a **fruitful** life!
a) Galatians 5:22
b) Ephesians 5:19ff.