

# “YOU ARE EMPOWERED”

**Text:** Ephesians 5:15-21  
**Subject:** How To “*Stay Filled*” With The Holy Spirit

## Introduction

(Thus Far, We’ve Discovered:)

- ◆ In chapter 1, “You are **Accepted**” (and have right standing before God because of Jesus)
- ◆ In chapter 2, “You are **Quickened**” (and have been made alive on the inside)
- ◆ In chapter 3, “You are **Strengthened**” (to the degree that God is allowed to rule your life)
- ◆ In chapter 4, “You are **Renewed**” (by putting wholesome things in your mind that the Holy Spirit can use to enable you to put on the new man)
- ◆ In chapter 5, “You are **Empowered**”

(Verse 18)

“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit”

**Question:** Why does God want us to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

**Answer:** So that we can do **His will** and **His work** in **His energy** (Repeat)

**Question:** Is being filled with the Holy Spirit that important to God?

- ◆ In **Matthew 3:11**, “I indeed baptize you with water, but Jesus will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with Fire”.
- ◆ In **Mark 1:8**, “I baptize you with water, but Jesus shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit”.
- ◆ In **Luke 24:49**, “I send the promise of My Father upon you, but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high”.
- ◆ In **John 7:37-39**, “If any man thirst, let him come unto Me and drink. He that believes on Me, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. This spake He of the Spirit, which they that believed on Him **should receive**”.
- ◆ In **Acts 1:4**, (Jesus said), “Wait for the promise of the Father...for you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days hence.
- ◆ In **Acts 2:38**, (Peter said), “Repent and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, for the promise is unto you, your children and to all that are afar off”.

**Question:** Pastor, what is this Holy Spirit Baptism?

**Answer:** It is not a great knowledge of the Bible,  
It is not enthusiasm or personality,  
It is not talent or natural ability.

(This Baptism In The Holy Spirit Is:)

- ◆ You and me being clothed with the Spirit of God.
- ◆ It is you and me being energized for service in God’s Kingdom.
- ◆ It is not a goal (but a gateway into spirit-filled **living**, and **praying**, and **service**).

**Question:** Why is it so important?

**Answer:** Because it is a gift that God wants all to receive.

- ◆ Acts 2:4, “They were **all** filled with the Spirit and began to speak with other tongues”.
- ◆ Acts 10:46, “The Holy Spirit fell on **all** who heard the Word”
- ◆ Acts 19:7, “**All** twelve were filled with the Spirit and spake with tongues”.
- ◆ I Corinthians 14:5, “I would that you **all** spoke in tongues”.
- ◆ Acts 2:39, “For the promise is unto you and to your children, and to **all** that are afar off”.

**Question:** Pastor, is the outpouring of the Spirit for everyone who is saved?

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- #1. In Acts 2:4, (120 on the day of Pentecost) were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues.
- #2. In Acts 8:17, (The Samaria believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues).
- #3. In Acts 9:17, (Ananias laid hands on Paul and Paul was baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues). (I Corinthians 14:18)
- #4. In Acts 10:44-48, (The Gentiles at Cornelius' house were baptized in the Holy Spirit, spoke in tongues and magnified God).
- #5. In Acts 19:6, (The disciples in Ephesus were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues).

**(5 Different Occasions Over A 30 Year Period)**

**Remember:**

- #1. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is not a goal to be reached, but a gateway that leads to spiritual ministry.
- #2. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit gives the believer his or her "Prayer Language" to use daily in personal prayer.
- #3. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit opens the door for God to use you (if He chooses) in the gift of tongues in a public service.

**(How do I receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?)**

- #1. Understand it is a gift from God. (Not earned)
- #2. Be fully persuaded that you can receive. (Have faith in God)
- #3. Open your heart with praise and adoration to God. (Reach out in earnest prayer)
- #4. Yield to any deep "Welling up" within your spirit and allow the Holy Spirit to flow out of you in expressions of worship and prayer in a language unknown to you but to God.

**(But Never Forget)**

- ◆ (Verse 18) is a present tense continual experience.
- ◆ (Verse 18) is saying, "And be not drunk with wine, but keep on being filled, (continually) with the Holy Spirit"

**Question:** Pastor, how do I keep on living a Spirit Filled life?

**Question:** How do I cooperate with God day in and day out?

**Question:** How do I live the New Testament Spirit filled life?

- ◆ "And Jesus being **full** of the Holy Spirit" (Luke 4:1)
- ◆ "And they were all **filled** with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4)
- ◆ "Then Peter, **filled** with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 4:8)
- ◆ "They were all **filled** with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 4:31)
- ◆ "Stephen being **full** of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 7:55)
- ◆ "The disciples were **filled** with joy and with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 13:52)

**(How Do I Live This Way, Continually Full Of The Holy Spirit?)**

**I. Live with "Purpose" (Vs. 15, 16)**

(Verse 15), "Walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise"

◆ The word "Circumspectly" means:

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. To be careful    | 3. To watch out |
| 2. To pay attention | 4. To take heed |

- ◆ It means that "Spirit Filled" people don't live as fools (careless and unthinking)
- ◆ Instead, you live with purposeful intentions to avoid pitfalls and temptations and unwise choices.

(Verse 16), “Redeeming the time because the days are evil”

**Question:** What does it mean to “Redeem your time”?

**Answer:** It means to make the most of every opportunity.

- ◆ Our English word “Opportunity” comes from the Latin word (which means) “Toward the port”
- ◆ It refers to a ship taking advantage of the opportunity of the wind and tide to go safely into harbor.

**(In Other Words)**

- ◆ Spirit filled people live on purpose...
  - ...you guard your heart and attitudes,
  - ...you guard your thoughts and motives,
  - ...you guard your time and opportunities. **(Why?)**
- ◆ Because you are headed to port, you are going somewhere, you have an eternal destiny always in mind.

**(#1. Spirit Filled People Live On Purpose)**

## II. Spirit Filled People Live With A Plan

(Verse 17), “Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is”

- ◆ The word “Understand” (SUNIEMI) means: “To grasp, perceive and comprehend”

**(In Other Words)**

- ◆ God intends for us all to live grasping, perceiving and comprehending what His plan and will is.

**(In Other Words)**

- ◆ Live with a plan, to follow God’s plan for your life.

**Question:** Pastor, how do I understand the will of God, the plan of God or the voice of God for my life?

**Question:** How do I discern if its God, satan, or just me?

**Question:** How do I discover God’s perfect will for my own life?

**(Pen These Down:)**

### #1. Through the Word of God (Colossians 1:9)

“Be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding”

- ◆ God’s will, will never contradict God’s Word.

### #2. Through the Spirit of God (John 16:13)

“When He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth”

- ◆ The voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to you in a familiar, personal and inner voice, (that inner voice of impression, conviction, calling).
- ◆ Remember – it doesn’t have to be nonsense, weird, flashy or sensational (to be genuine and spiritual).
- ◆ The danger is – to sensationalize and dramatize and be drawn to the flamboyant.

### #3. Through the Peace of God (Colossians 3:15)

“Let the peace of God rule (or umpire) the decisions in your heart”

- ◆ Peace is the fruit of right decisions that please the Lord.

### #4. Through the Providence of God (Romans 8:28)

“All things work together for good to those who love the Lord”

- ◆ God will use circumstances (outside of your control) to fulfill His plan in your own life.

(#1. Spirit Filled People Live With Purpose)

(#2. Spirit Filled People Live with Plans)

### III. Spirit Filled People Live With Power (V. 18)

“And be not drunk with wine” (Means:)

- ◆ Don't seek to find your joy and power from something external. (Instead)

“Be filled (continually filled) with the Spirit”

(In Other Words)

- ◆ Rather than seek an artificial temporary stimulus...
- ◆ ...ask God to give you an abiding glow and power that will reflect through your entire personality.

**Question:** Pastor, how do I “keep being filled” with the Spirit on a daily basis?

(Verses 19-21)

#### #1. Practice an attitude of Worship (V. 19)

“Speaking to yourself in Psalms, and Hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”

- ◆ Psalms (are the Psalms of the Old Testament put to music)
- ◆ Hymns (are songs of praise and testimony God has given to the church)
- ◆ Spiritual songs (are those you make up in your spirit as you walk along praising God throughout the day).

#### #2. Practice an attitude of Gratefulness (V. 20)

“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ”

- ◆ Gratitude allows God to inhabit your praises and fill you continually.
- ◆ Murmuring and complaining robs you of power.

#### #3. Practice an attitude of Humility (V. 21)

“Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God”

- ◆ The word “submitting” means “to line up under” as troops would line up under their commander.
- ◆ It means the opposite of stubbornness and rebellion and a “My way or else” attitude.

### Conclusion

**Question:** How can we live “Spirit Filled” day after day?

#### #1. Live With God's Purpose

- ◆ ...by using your opportunities as you prepare for the next life to come.

#### #2. Live With God's Plan

- ◆ ...by understanding God's will for your life through the Word, the Spirit, the Peace of God and providential things outside of your control.

#### #3. Live With God's Power

- ◆ ...by maintaining a heart full of worship, thanksgiving, and humility!

AMEN!  
Bill Kirk, Pastor

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