

## **BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT (Ephesians 5:18)**

**John 7:37-39** All believers in Jesus Christ receive the Holy Spirit of God. **I Corinthians 6:19** The blessed Holy Spirit dwells in every believer. **Ephesians 1:13** All believers are sealed with the Holy Spirit and are permanently one with Him. However, all believers are not filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Ephesians 5:17-18** Notice Paul tells the church “Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.” .... be filled with the Spirit.” It is not suggested it is a command!!!

### **RECOGNIZING A SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVER**

**Ephesians 5:19; Col. 3:16** Ever wonder if you or someone you know is Spirit Filled? The first thing Paul tells us about being Spirit filled is having an ongoing attitude of grace, peace, joy, and harmony with yourself, “singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.”

**Ephesians 5:20** The next thing Paul says about being Spirit filled is having an attitude of thanks. Paul is sure to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit and adds this, “Giving thanks always for all things.”

**Ephesians 5:21** The last characteristic Paul says that is important to being filled with the Spirit is that we are to “submit ourselves to each other.” That means to put others before ourselves. It means to humble ourselves, be less critical of people, be ready to help others, and let other people rule over us.

**Acts 4:8, 31; Acts 13:9** When a believer is filled with the Spirit they will be a bold witness for Christ.

There are no conditions regarding having the Holy Spirit but there are conditions on being filled.

### **GRIEVE NOT THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**Ephesians 4:30** *Grieve* – To inflict pain, to wound the feelings, to offend, to make sorrowful, to displease. To provoke. To understand what grieves the Holy Spirit we must understand it's meaning.

**Ephesians 4:25-32** Preceding Paul's statement about grieving the Holy Spirit he gives direction regarding the sins that are so grievous to God that it is impossible for a person involved with sin to be filled with the Holy Spirit of God so that He can have His will accomplished in the life of this person.

**I John 1:9** Any and all sin must be confessed and repented of in order for us to be used or filled. We cannot hide or cover up our sin, we must recognize it and be honest with God about it.

### **QUENCH NOT THE SPIRIT**

**I Thessalonians 5:19** *Quench* – to extinguish, to still, to quiet, to repress, to stifle, to cool down.

**Romans 6:13** As believers, we quench the Holy Spirit when we are not willing to obey what God wants us to do and we want our own way. When we say no we hinder God's work in our life.

**Romans 12:1** This is what God wants from every believer and it is what is needed to be filled.

**Proverbs 3:5-6** God speaks to His people through His word, bible preaching and teaching, through prayer and meditation. When we know things are of God we must trust, believe and move toward Him.

### **WALK IN THE SPIRIT**

**Galatians 5:16-18** *Walk* – a continuous mode of conduct or behavior, to follow a certain course of life. To walk in the Spirit is to be led by the Spirit, to depend on the Spirit. In order to counter our human nature, (the flesh), we must lean on the power and influence of the Holy Spirit.

**Ephesians 6:10-13** If we do not depend upon God for fighting the spiritual warfare we will lose.

**Galatians 5:22-23** When we are filled with the Spirit our personality takes on His personality.