

**INTRODUCTION: Turn to Ephesians 5****Ephesians 5:18–21 (NKJV)**

<sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> submitting to one another in the fear of God.

- I want to speak to you about the role of the Holy Spirit
- The longer I walk with Jesus, the more I've come to understand that I need the power of the Holy Spirit
- I need to be led by the Spirit

***So important to my life as a believer that Jesus said...*****John 14:16–17 (NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—<sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

- Jesus did not want us to live without the Presence and the Power of the Holy Spirit
- It is the basis of everything we do... the Holy Spirit that dwells with you and is in you
- There is so much talk about revival, there's a lot of hype, people basically putting together big worship events, baptisms on college campuses, people are calling it revival and it could be
- But Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit and the Bible says if the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwells in you... it will quicken, or a better translation is... it will release life into your mortal body
- Every Christian is not only alive, but dwelling in us is the life-giving Holy Spirit and that means the normal Christian life is a life that is continually in a state of revival
- This is essential for every worship leader, every musician, every singer, every audio and video engineer
- The Presence of God is always with us, always present and we are to live in the continual awareness of His Presence
- We are people of the Presence of God... the Holy Spirit dwells in you

- This is so simple... but so key because if you don't believe this then you are going to buy into all the pop-theology buzz words... like Come Holy Spirit as if the Holy Spirit needs an invitation to come to Church
- Worship started, The Holy Spirit's out having a cup of coffee and after a song or two... GOD SHOWS UP
- The truth is... the Holy Spirit lives in us and it's the Holy Spirit that leads us to gather together as a congregation to worship Jesus

**Revelation 22:17 (NKJV)**

<sup>17</sup> And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

- I don't invite the Holy Spirit into a meeting
- The Holy Spirit invited me
- I begin with the awareness that the Spirit is present with me, He is in me and He has gathered everyone together
- We don't need a few fast songs to get people in the mood for worship... The Spirit is already working

***Not only is the Spirit with me and in me but He is to be upon me*****Acts 1:8 (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup> But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

- We refer to this as the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- It is essential to be a witness, a representative of Jesus
- You cannot minister the power of God if you've never received the power of God through the Baptism of the Spirit

***Let me tell you about D.L. Moody***

In the early days of D.L. Moody's ministry, RA Torrey writes he had a tremendous desire to serve God, no real power. There were two Free Methodist women who would come to his meetings and at the end of the meetings they would say: "We are praying for you."

Finally, Mr. Moody became irritated and said to them: "Why are you praying for me? Why don't you pray for the unsaved?"

They replied: "We are praying that you may get the power." Mr. Moody did not know what that meant, but he got to thinking about it, and he said to them: "I wish you would tell me what you mean," and they told him about the baptism with the Holy Spirit. These two women prayed for Moody to receive the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

A few days passed and Moody was on his way to England. He was walking up Wall Street in New York and the power of God fell upon him. He had to hurry off to the house of a friend and ask that he might have a room by himself, and in that room, he stayed alone for hours; the Holy Spirit came upon him filling his soul with such joy that he had to ask God to withhold His hand, lest he die on the spot from very joy. He went out from that place with the power of the Holy Ghost upon him, and when he got to London, the power of God wrought through him mightily and hundreds were added to the churches. Moody would later say that he never changed his methods, but after receiving the Baptism of the Spirit the power of God the number of people responding to the preaching of the gospel exponentially increased.

### ***When I was 17 I had an encounter with the Holy Spirit***

- Lonnie Frisbe prayed for me and the Holy Spirit came upon me and I received power alright
- From the bottom of my feet to the top of my head I got baptized in the Holy Ghost!
- This radically changed the dynamic of ministry
- I didn't change what I did, but I noticed when unbelievers worshipped with us, they would sense the Presence of God, start crying and giving their lives to the Lord
- I noticed the number of people experiencing God's Presence and Power during worship exponentially increased
- Not just in places who knew my ministry or my songs, but in a variety of places
- I experienced this when I led worship across the Midwest doing outreaches with Mike MacIntosh
- I'm smart to know it's not my great charisma, showmanship or talent
- It's what Jesus said... you will receive power to be my witness when the Holy Spirit comes upon you
- The power of the Holy Spirit is essential for ministry, you have nothing to offer without it

***So how do I receive the power of the Spirit?***

- Vs. 18 Paul says first we must make a choice
- He says do not be drunk with wine, but be filled with the Spirit
- Two very different experiences from two very different sources
- I don't believe Paul was making a comparison
- He wasn't saying you could be drunk with wine or drunk with the Spirit like the Pentecostals like to say
- The context of Chapter 5 is Paul is exhorting them to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness
- The word used for fellowship means to participate together
- Paul is telling them... don't participate in anything that is evil, sinful, dark, or shameful
- Rather, be intentional about what you do, redeem the time, be wise with your time and it's in this context that He says... don't be drunk with wine, rather be filled with the Spirit... there's a choice to be made

***I would submit this to you...***

- People want to experience the real presence of God
- According to Barna Research in 2025... 77% of U.S. Teenagers are motivated to continue learning about Jesus throughout their lives
- There is a hunger for God
- If you are not filled with the Spirit, if you are not led by the Spirit, then you will rely on something else to give the illusion of God's Presence
- That's what happens when you drink wine... you feel a buzz, you get an experience but it's not the Holy Spirit
- When I was a young worship leader, I would listen to the way by worship leader heroes would lead their songs, pronounce their words, say the things they said to get the crowd to shout out to God
- I learned how to manipulate a crowd to get a response
- Today I watch young worship leaders rely on multi-tracks so they can sound like Brandon Lake or Phil Wickham
- I watch people rely on droning pads to create an atmosphere
- They repeat phrases, emotionally build the music to create an emotional release in the worship
- When you do those things, you manipulate the people to an experience
- They may even cry... but it won't be the Holy Spirit

***Paul says... don't be drunk with wine, don't chase an experience***

- Be filled with the Spirit
- The verb “filled” is in the Present, Passive, Imperative Tense
- Which means it’s a command, it’s something done to you and it’s something God is doing right NOW
- All you and I must do is receive it... Lord I receive a fresh filling with the Holy Spirit
- What’s interesting about the word used for filled is it can be translated to fill with artistic understanding
- The Holy Spirit releases creativity, the Holy Spirit searches the mind of God, who is the most creative person in all Creation
- The Holy Spirit will give you melodies to sing, rhythms to play, chord progressions to play
- The Holy Spirit will unify musicians to create one sound of praise
- The Holy Spirit will give you ears the mix sound
- The Holy Spirit will inspire the lyrics you write, the camera shots you take
- There is nothing more powerful than a Spirit-led, Spirit empowered Worship Team and Tech Team

***Notice the natural result of being filled with the Spirit... worship flows***

- Vs. 19 speaking to one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs
- Psalms are popular songs
- Hymns are traditional songs
- Spiritual Songs are songs that are inspired for the moment
- All three types of songs are needed
- And notice what happens in the heart... singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord
- A continuous stream of worship directed to Jesus fills your heart

Psalm 40:3 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> He has put a new song in my mouth— Praise to our God; Many will see *it* and fear, And will trust in the LORD.

- When you stand to minister to the people, this continuous stream that’s already moving in your heart pours out over the people
- That’s what it means to minister out of the overflow, out of the abundant life we’ve received from Jesus

***Notice vs. 20 the natural response of being filled with the Spirit is gratitude***

- “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”
- Remember the context is being filled with The Spirit
- The natural result is worship
- The natural response is gratitude...
- Thank you for what you’re doing by the work of your Spirit

***Now I want to clarify what it means to give thanks in all things***

- I’m not thanking God for my car breaking down
- That could be laziness on my part... forgetting to put oil in the engine
- I’m not thanking God for getting fired... that could be spiritual attack
- I’m not thanking God because the band sound terrible... that could be unfaithfulness on the part of the band to learn the songs or to learn their instrument
- What I do thank God for is the work of His Spirit to lead me, comfort me, to give me wisdom, insight, to empower me
- In every circumstance, at all times I thank God because His Presence is with me, His power is upon me and He is working in and through me
- This is the natural response to being filled with the Spirit

***Finally notice vs. 21***

- The natural way the Spirit works is through mutual submission
- Paul writes submitting to one another in the fear of God
- The word “submitting” means a willingness to yield to another’s wishes
- It’s a willingness to get along, a willingness to respect the position or the authority of another person out of respect to God

**1 Peter 5:5 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “*God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.*”

- Wherever the Spirit is leading, there is a culture of mutual submission
- Jesus said if you want to be great, be the servant of all
- When it comes to worship in a church, the band is there to serve the needs of the church

- The tech team is there to serve the needs of the band
- The video team is there to serve the needs of the people watching so they can receive God's Word
- The worship leader is there to serve the needs of the pastor
- But what if you have someone on the team that's not a good fit?
- The answer is you serve them
- If you're the leader, you serve them by helping them get to where God wants them to be... that might be in another ministry... but the intent is not to embarrass them it's to serve them

I had a guy that wanted to play guitar on the worship team. I will have people come and rehearse with the band. He came and he wasn't ready. He took it personal. He led worship in a home Bible Study and every week they discussed how terrible the worship sounded because I was arrogant and didn't want his help. He went to the Pastor and called a meeting to confront me. On the way to the meeting, I was praying and the Holy Spirit revealed something to me about him. He had been apart of several churches and in every church the worship leader didn't let him serve. I was just the next one in a long line of arrogant people that were full of themselves and didn't want help. The Lord gave me a word of wisdom... apologize to him on behalf of all the worship leaders that let him down. When we got to the meeting, I immediately said... before we get started, the Lord spoke to me. I told him what the Lord showed me and I said on behalf of all the worship leaders that let you down, I'm sorry. He broke into tears. It was an incredible Holy Spirit moment. In our conversation that followed, I found out he loves scripture. So I proposed that we have him begin every service with prayer and a scripture. He would spend all week praying and often the Lord would give him a passage that perfectly complimented the sermon. Overnight he went from being my worst critic to being my biggest champion.

- I could not have done that without the power of the Spirit
- If you are dealing with problems with people on your team, people in the church not singing... you need more than advice and techniques
- You need the power of the Spirit

Ephesians 5:18 (NKJV)

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