

Walking in the Power of the Holy Spirit

We have become so used to depending on feelings instead of facts in the Christian walk that we tend to doubt God's Word and inwardly question whether He will do what His Word says He will. Many of you have come to realize that you have been living a powerless Christian life and you honestly asked the Holy Spirit to fill you. Now, a few days later, you may be doubting the validity of this filling because there may have not been a big emotional reaction or drastic change. Remember that what God says is fact, and whether your response was calm assurance, excited enthusiasm, or no definite emotional reaction at all, you still can be positive that the Holy Spirit has filled you through these basic steps.

- Confess sin and receive cleansing (1 John 1:9)
- Claim God's will and purpose for His Spirit to fill you (Ephesians 5:17,18; Romans 12:1,2; Acts 1:8). This is done through prayer (1 John 5:14,15).
- Believe God's promise and act in faith (Hebrews 11:6 and James 1:6).

How to be Filled Continually:

Read Ephesians 5:18. In the original Greek, "be filled" means "keep on being filled constantly and continually." Living a godly life is a vital part of this process.

1.) What characterizes the life of a Christian who is "being filled" constantly and continually (John 15:1-11; Galatians 5:16-25)? How can you continue to abide in Christ? What does the example of the vine and branches in verses 1-8 mean to you in your Christian life? He who walks in the Spirit, he glorifies the Father by bearing much fruit. By keeping His commandments (John 14:21; John 15:10).

2.) Which two commandments do you think are most important to living the Spirit-filled life (Matthew 22:36-40)? Love God and love your neighbor as yourself.

3.) Read Ephesians 4:25-32. How do you grieve the Holy Spirit? By sinning.

- Which commandment in that list do you need to pay special attention to?

How do we deal with our sin?

1.) According to Romans 8:13, what does the Holy Spirit want to do for you to combat sin? Put to death the deeds of the body.

2.) By spending time in prayer, bible reading and meditation. What do these verses teach about the role of prayer in the life of the Spirit-filled believer?

- a) Hebrews 4:15,16 - It is vital so we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- b) James 5:16 - So we may be healed.

Section 2 - Lesson Five

c) James 1:5 – Prayer is our means of gaining wisdom from God.

d) Acts 4:31 – We may receive boldness.

3.) What do the following verses tell us about God's Word in the Spirit-filled life?

a) Romans 1:16 – It is the power of God for salvation of everyone who believes.

b) Hebrews 4:12 – It judges our thoughts and our hearts intent.

c) 2 Timothy 2:15 – It helps us understand God's truth.

d) 2 Timothy 3:16,17 – It shows us doctrine, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness. So we may be prepared for good works.

4) By obeying God's Commandments :

a) Read John 14:15, 14:23-26. What role does obedience have in the Spirit-filled life?

LIFE APPLICATION:

1.) How is the Holy Spirit's power and fullness evident in your life?

2.) List any areas of your life in which the Holy Spirit is not in control. What practical steps can you take this week to give the Holy Spirit full control of those areas that you have not surrendered to Him.

3.) Have you realized a victory over a sin you confessed yesterday? Describe.

Conclusion:

To have a continuous, day-by-day Spirit-filled life is God's norm for the Christian and results from cleansing, and uncompromising faith that believes God and claims His promises to be truth each day, moment by moment.