

Growing Together by Being Filled with the Spirit

Be very careful then, how you walk... (Ephesians 5:15-21)

Introduction:

As Paul continues his instruction on 'walking in a manner worthy of the calling' (4:1) he addresses the subject of holy and healthy relationships (5:22 - 6:9). But he prefaces his instruction with an urgent appeal to sober and wise living that comes from being filled with the Holy Spirit; a continuous need in the life of the believer, evidenced in how we interact with one another and with God.

Sermon Outline:

1. Walking Carefully... With Wisdom (vs. 15 - 16)

2. Walking in the Lord's Will... With Understanding (vs. 17)

3. Walking in the Spirit... With One Another (vs. 18 - 21)
 - Speaking to one another (vs. 19)
 - Giving thanks always (vs. 20)
 - Submitting to one another (vs. 21)

Questions for Reflection:

1. The verb 'to walk' is used a lot by Paul in Ephesians (2:2, 10; 4:1, 17; 5:2, 8, 15). What has he taught about our 'walk' before and after becoming a Christian?
2. How is the teaching about the filling of the Holy Spirit in this passage different than some popular notions about what the Spirit's filling should result in?



Personal Study Notes

Ephesians 5:15-21

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18

The letters of Ephesians and Colossians were written at the same time and carried by the same person (Tychicus - Eph. 6:21; Col. 4:7). They have many parallel passages:

Ephesians 5:15 - 21	Colossians 3:16 - 17
<i>Be filled with the Spirit</i>	<i>Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly</i>
<i>Walk not as unwisely but as wisely</i>	<i>In all wisdom</i>
<i>Speaking to one another</i>	<i>Teaching and admonishing one another</i>
<i>With psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making music in your heart to the Lord</i>	<i>Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God</i>
<i>Giving thanks always to God the Father</i>	<i>Giving thanks to God the Father through Him</i>
<i>For everything in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ</i>	<i>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the Name of the Lord Jesus</i>

Understand what the Lord's will is (5:17-18)

Speak to One Another . . . (5:19-20)

Submission to One Another (5:21)

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

1)

2)

