

**GFBC Thursday Night's Scriptural Study**  
**Lesson # 99**  
**Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20 {KJV}**  
**Teaching Verses: Ephesians 5:18-20**  
**November 30, 2023**

**TEXT – EPHESIANS 5:18-20**

**TITLE – THE BENEFITS OF BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**VV-18-20-{TLPB}-“Don’t drink too much wine, for many evils lie along that path; be filled instead with the Holy Spirit, and controlled by him. Talk with each other much about the LORD, quoting psalms and hymns and singing sacred songs, making music in your hearts to the LORD. Always giving thanks for everything to our God and Father in the name of our LORD Jesus Christ.”**

What are some of the benefits of being filled with the Holy Spirit? I would like to suggest seven benefits of being filled with the Holy Spirit:

1. He is the believers’ identification and He certifies that God is authentically the believers’ Father – Romans 8:17
2. He guides the believer into all truth – John 16:13
3. He empowers the believer for witnessing – Acts 1:8
4. He orders the believers’ footsteps, covers, protects, and provides for all of the believers’ needs – Psalm 37:1-2; 59:9
5. He convicts, renews, restores, refreshes, and transforms the believer’s mind – Romans 12:2
6. He is performing and completing the good work that God has begun in the believer, and
7. He secures the believer’s salvation and He reveals to the believer the deep things of God – Ephesians 4:30; Romans 8:26; I Corinthians 2:10

The Holy Spirit is in the process of making us (*the believers*) more Christ like; He gives the believer power to witness, He guide the believer into all truth, He convicts the believer of sin, and He the revealer of God’s truth to the believer.

Every believer is occupied by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. But because of sin, every believer is not always under the influencing power of the Holy Spirit.

And because there are challenges in life that we sometime allow to “trump” the influence of the Holy Spirit in us, we become distracted, distance, and weak. Therefore, in order to regain spiritual strength, we must do those things, which enable the Holy Spirit to refill us.

Sin cannot diminish the Holy Spirit. Sin cannot evict the Holy Spirit. However, sin can cause us to grieve the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30).

Those that are born of the Holy Spirit are sealed unto the day of redemption. When the day of Pentecost was fully come, all the Apostles and disciples that were in the upper room in Jerusalem were all baptized in the Holy Spirit; and they were also filled with the Holy Spirit.

There is only one baptism in the Holy Spirit, but there are multiple fillings. Refilling of the Holy Spirit takes place when restoration is preceded by daily repentance, and right relationship with God is made whole.

Baptism in the Holy Spirit is the total immersing of the believer into Him. Being baptized in the Holy Spirit is an external event. On the other hand, being filled with the Holy Spirit is an act whereby He pours Himself into the inner being of the believer and fills him/her with His presence and power.

Baptism with the Holy Spirit cover, shields, and protects the believer. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit empowers the witness, to perform the work of the ministry, to serve, and for the edifying of the body of Christ, which is the Church.

## (2)

Ephesians 4:11-12 (KJV) says, **“And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”**

These gifts and titles have meaning. The Apostles were those whom Jesus trained and sent out. The New Testament prophets received their revelations through the Holy Spirit.

When Agabus prophesied, he said that the Apostle Paul would be bound in Jerusalem. Acts 21:11 (KJV) says, **“And when he was come unto us, he took Paul’s girdle, and bound his hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.”**

The Holy Spirit spoke this revelation to the prophet Agabus. The New Testament prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers based their teachings on the Apostles’ doctrines and the prophetic revelations came from the Holy Spirit.

The Old Testament prophets took the word of God from God to the people. The Old Testament prophets were also forth tellers of God’s future plans and actions.

The Holy Spirit is the Revealer of God’s truth. He is also the liberal Dispatcher of God’s grace, mercy, and favor.

Although the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers are gifts from Christ to the church, these five gifts are by no means conclusive. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are not for self-promotion!

Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers are precious gifts from Christ. Did you not know that your Pastor is a gift to you from the LORD Jesus Christ Himself?

The prophets, evangelists, and teachers are gifts to the church from the LORD for the work of the ministry, edification of the body of Christ, and serving.

In Thom S. Rainer’s book, “I Am A Church Member,” he talks about church members who have a country club mindset. The country club mindset is a mindset that looks for others to serve them.

But the mindset of a servant member is to serve and not be served. A servant member who serves with a tower does not have a “straw boss” mentality.

Webster’s New World College Dictionary defines a straw boss as “a supervisor who has little or no authority to support his orders.” A servant member is more interested in serving than a title or position.

In Psalm 84:10 (KJV), the psalmist said, **“For a day in thy court is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.”**

The gifts of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, are gifts to the Church for the maturing of the saints and for the edifying of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12, KJV). Watch this! The gifts of the Spirit in Ephesians 4:11 are plural, but the fruit of the spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 is singular.

Now every believer has the fruit of the Spirit but not every believer is an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, or teacher. The gifts are for the maturing of the saints, and the edifying of the body of Christ; but the fruit of the Spirit is produced in every believer.

A believer cannot be born of the Spirit of God and abort the fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-23 (KJV) says, **“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”**

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The fruit that the Holy Spirit produces in the believer's life is the result of His indwelling in the believer. The benefit of the fruit of the Spirit is, it cannot be broken, divided, individually selected, or separated. The fruit of the Spirit is a divine "bundle!"

The benefit of being full of the Holy Spirit is, there is no law against the fruit of the Spirit. Watch this! There is no person or any law that can contradict what God has said.

As Christians, if we believe and embrace the word of God, there would be less hatred, rage, low self-esteem, depression, and mental illness. Now I am not suggesting that any one terminate their therapeutic treatments or discontinue their medications.

Because of God's sovereignty, there are no boundaries known unto man, or restrictions on who or what God can use and or where He can work. If God can work, and He did, in a lion's den, a fiery furnace, the life of a murderer, a cheat, and or a prostitute, He can do it in your life!

You can't get rid of your problems by drugging, drinking, and or by drowning yourself in a bottle. The teaching text says, **"be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms, singing and making melody in your heart to the LORD; Giving thanks always for all things unto the God and the Father in the name of our LORD Jesus Christ."**

The Message Bible translation of Ephesians 5:18a says, **"Don't drink too much wine. That cheapens your life."** Notice, the Message Bible says, **"Don't drink too much wine."** The King James translation says, **"Do not get drunk with wine, wherein is excess."**

The teaching text does not say, don't drink any wine. The teaching text says, don't drink excessively.

Keep in mind that historically before and during the apostles' time, in that part of the world, water was sometime contaminated. Therefore drinking wine in moderation was more acceptable.

When drinking wine or any other strong drink excessively, it can make you drunk. Getting drunk or being high off of anything can place you under the influence of your intake.

Being under the influence of alcohol or fermented drinks can influence the mind, impair your decision-making, affect your judgment, your senses, and it can relax your body and your muscles to the degree that you have no mental or physical control.

The teaching text is saying to the believers, don't be under the influence of wine but be filled with the Spirit. The benefit of being filled with the Spirit is: He will transform your mind, refresh your spirit, empower your walk, enable your witness, and refresh your worship and praise.

The Holy Spirit supplies benefits for every believer. As a believer, when you are immersed with burdens and bereavement that are too heavy for you to carry or handle, the teaching text strongly suggests that you start, **"Speaking to yourself in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the LORD."**

The benefits of being filled with the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer are active and life changing. Now, you need to get this!

The benefits of the Holy Spirit are the benefits of God! God's love, grace, and mercy are benefits. The benefits of God and the Holy Spirit are the same in addition to forgiveness, justification, sanctification, reconciliation, glorification, and conformation.

The benefits of God are not restricted to the earth realm, but they are benefits that God has blessed us with in heavenly places. Ephesians 1:3 (KJV) says, **"Blessed be the God and Father of our LORD Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love."**

**(4)**

Well, our Scriptural Study time is up. Thank you for your in person study and those of you who are sharing with us via Live Streaming.

The questions for tonight are:

- 1- How is the Holy Spirit changing your life?
- 2- What part of your life is under the influence of the Holy Spirit?

