

SERMON OUTLINE

FAMILY BUSINESS

“Living in the Spirit’s Fullness” Ephesians 5:18

No. 4830

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The Bible gives detailed instructions about such *practical* issues as marriage, parenting, and employment. But it is important to realize that they are related to such *spiritual* issues as “living in the fullness of the Spirit.” We need to understand the connection.

I. What Does the Bible Actually Say?

- A. Healthy relationships stem from the Spirit’s fullness.
 - 1. The verb “be filled.”
 - 2. The dependent participles: speaking, singing, thanking, submitting.
- B. The Spirit’s fullness is normative for all God’s people.
 - 1. Imperative mood: it’s a command.
 - 2. Present tense: it’s a continual experience.
 - 3. Passive voice: it’s something you allow to happen.
 - 4. Plural form: it’s for everybody.

II. What Does the Expression Mean?

- A. The contrast: “do not get drunk with wine,” do “be filled with the Spirit.”
- B. The context: to be “drunk” is to be captivated, motivated, activated by alcohol.
- C. The content: to be “filled” is to be captivated, motivated, activated by the Spirit.

III. How Does this Apply?

- A. Recognize *who* the Spirit is. Ephesians 1:11-14
- B. Recognize *where* the Spirit is. Ephesians 2:19-22
- C. Recognize *why* the Spirit is who He is and where He is. Ephesians 3:14-21
- D. Recognize *how* to relate to the Spirit. Ephesians 4:29-32
 - 1. Captivated.
 - 2. Motivated.
 - 3. Activated.

Point to Ponder: If healthy relationships are dependent on the fullness of the Spirit, what is my relationship to Him and His fullness?