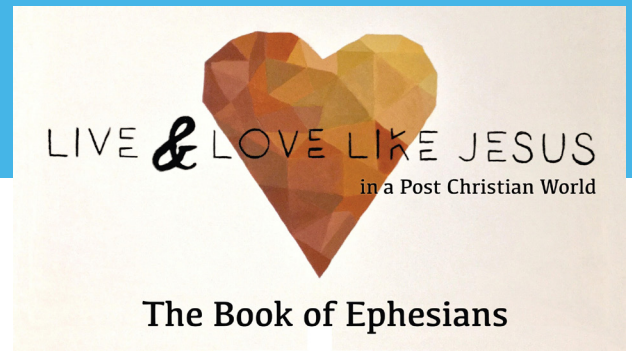


Discussion Questions

April 2, 2023

Ephesians 5:15-21 Be Filled with the Spirit



1. Read Ephesians 5:15-21

In verses 15-18, Paul gives 3 contrasting pairs of commands - "Don't do this, but don't do this." What are those 3 pairs? Discuss what point you think Paul is trying to make by the contrast.

2. Read the following verses in Ephesians about Paul's command to "walk." 4:1, 4:17, 5:2, 5:8, 5:15

Discuss what Paul is trying to convey by using this term "walk" so frequently.

3. Discuss what it looks like to "Walk in wisdom" according to Paul, and what that looks like today.

4. Paul tells the Ephesians to "Walk in Wisdom and be filled with the Spirit". Read Exodus 31:1-7, then discuss what Spirit Filled wisdom looks like in this context.

5. In Ephesian 5:18-21, Paul commands them to continue to be filled with the Holy Spirit on an ongoing basis. Often Christians see being filled as a passive role that we simply receive the Spirit of no work of our own. Yet here he clearly commands them and places the emphasis on their action. Read through this passage in context again and answer the following questions.

What does it mean for Christians to actively pursue being filled with Holy Spirit?

What does it look like practically to do so?

What is the fruit of doing so?

6. In what ways does this passage impact our understanding of worship today?

7. Discuss in what ways you need to grow in "being filled with the Spirit?" What practical steps can you take this week?

Ephesians 5:15-21

Be very careful, then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:15-16 (CSB)

Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk - not as unwise people but as wise - making the most of the time, because the days are evil.

5 "walks" of Ephesians

- Walk worthy of your calling- 4:1
- Don't walk like the Gentiles - 4:17
- Walk in love - 5:2
- Walk in the light - 5:8
- Walk wisely - 5:15

Exodus 31:1-7 (CSB)

The Lord also spoke to Moses: "Look, I have appointed by name Bezalel... I have filled him with God's Spirit, with wisdom, understanding, and ability in every craft to design artistic works in gold, silver, and bronze, to cut gemstones for mounting, and to carve wood for work in every craft... I have put wisdom in the heart of every skilled artisan in order to make all that I have commanded you: the tent of meeting, the ark of the testimony, the mercy seat that is on top of it, and all the other furnishings of the tent...

Ephesians 2:1-2 (CSB)

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit now working in the disobedient.

Ephesians 6:12 (CSB)

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil, spiritual forces in the heavens.

The Fellowship of the Ring

"I wish it need not have happened in my time," says Frodo. "So do I," says Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.""

Ephesians 5:17 (CSB)

So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

1 Timothy 2:3-4 (CSB)

This is good, and it pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

..give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 4:3

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality;

1 Peter 2:15

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

John 4:31-34 (NIV)

His disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me..."

Ephesians 5:18 (CSB)

And don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless living, but be filled by the Spirit:

Isaiah 5:22 (NLT)

What sorrow for those who are heroes at drinking wine and boast about all the alcohol they can hold.

Proverbs 20:1 (CSB)

Wine is a mocker, beer is a brawler; whoever goes astray because of them is not wise.

Ephesians 5:18-21

..be filled with the Spirit: speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music with your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of Christ.

Be filled with the Spirit by

- Speaking to one another in Psalms, Hymns & Spiritual Songs
- Singing & making music with your heart to the Lord
- Giving Thanks
- Submitting to one another in Christ