

"WEEKLY WISDOM"  
By Pastor Darryl Baker

For The Week of 03.15.10

"STAY FULL OF GOD"

Eph. 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,...

Years ago I was with a friend and we had been out cutting firewood and were on our way home to split the wood, and then sell it. All of a sudden the truck sputters a few times and the engine dies. We drift over to the side of the road and stop. My friend turns the key to start the truck and notices the gas tank is empty. We had been so busy he had forgotten to keep an eye on the gas gauge. It was cold outside and I really didn't feel like walking to a gas station. As crazy as it may sound to you I told my friend I am not walking, lay your hands on the dash of this truck with me. I prayed and declared in the name of Jesus that truck would run and get us to a gas station. I looked at my friend and told him to start the truck. He turned the key and it started right up. We proceeded to drive without a problem to a gas station where we filled up. If this wouldn't have happened we would have been stranded and walking.

Many Christians are running around through life with their tanks empty so to speak. They have taken their eyes off of their spiritual gauge and gotten to focused on the issues of life, or they never knew they could fill up spiritually to begin with. They are stranded on the side of the road. Ephesians 5:18 above is an interesting scripture. Paul states that it is not good to be drunk with wine, but we should be filled with the Spirit. He makes this analogy because on the day of Pentecost in Acts two when the disciples got filled with the Holy Spirit others that had seen them thought they were drunk. Alcohol is satans counterfeit to being filled with the Spirit of God. When we stay full of God we are living life with a completely different viewpoint.

The word "filled" here in verse 18 in the original Greek language actually means to keep being filled, or in other words be being filled with the Holy Spirit. There is an initial time for every believer who desires to be baptized in the Holy Spirit to be filled, overflowing with the Spirit of God. But as we see through the book of Acts the disciples continued to be filled with God's presence. Just like your car needing to have that tank filled if you want to keep it going down the road, if we want to have God's power continually working in our life we need to have our spiritual tanks refilled. Those that do are going to live a different kind of life. God is love, peace, joy, goodness, and more. This is what they will experience more of. What can we do to stay full of God? Paul tells us in the verses that follow.

Eph. 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Eph. 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.  
Eph. 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

There are three things spoken of that we are not to do in relationship with the Holy Spirit. We are not to quench, grieve, or resist the Holy Spirit. In Ephesians five when Paul talks about staying full of the Holy Spirit he follows that up with three things we are to do that will keep us from quenching, grieving, or resisting the Holy Spirit. The first is found in verse nineteen above. We are to be speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, making melody in our hearts to the Lord. In Ephesians four Paul tells us that we should not allow corrupt words to proceed from our mouth, but what we speak to one another should impart grace. That means our words should be a gift to one another. He follows this up with the statement that we should not grieve the Holy Spirit.

When we allow our mouths to be filled with corrupt words this is going to grieve the Spirit of God within us. This is why in Ephesians 5:19 Paul states that our words should be filled with that which brings praise and honor to God. When our words are a gift to the hearer, they are going to be a blessing and honoring to God. To do this we must keep our heart fixed on the Lord. This is making melody in your heart to the Lord. Out of the abundance of the heart our mouth speaks. Our words to one another can bring honor to God or dishonor. The more our words are a gift and not a curse the less we will grieve the Holy Spirit.

Eph. 5:20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

1 Th. 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Th. 5:19 Do not quench the Spirit.

Next to not quench the Spirit of God we must learn to live a life filled with gratitude to God. A lack of gratitude will begin to quench the Holy Spirit and diminish His presence in our life. Gratitude helps us to maintain an atmosphere of faith. As these scriptures tell us we should always remain thankful to God. What are we to be thankful to God for? You must put this attitude of gratitude in context to the Bible. We are to thank God for the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. Often people think we are to be thankful for disease or sickness when it comes upon us but that is not what Paul was stating here. Why would God ask us to thank Him for the very thing that Jesus suffered and died to deliver us from? Scripture tells us clearly we are to submit to God, what He has done, resist the devil,

which has to do with killing, stealing, and destroying, and he will flee from you. When we remain thankful to God in all things for what He has done to deliver us from satans work, we don't quench the Holy Spirit.

Eph. 5:21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Acts 7:51 "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers *did*, so *do* you.

Heb. 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Last but not least if we want to stay full of the Holy Spirit we must not resist Him. To submit to one another here refers to submission to authority. In Acts 7:51 Stephen was arrested for doing the works of Jesus and brought before the religious leaders of his day who had rejected Christ as the Messiah. He tells them that they being stiff-necked always resist the Holy Spirit. They had rejected the authority of Christ, the Head of the church. Hebrews tells us that those whom Jesus has placed in our lives to watch out for our souls, which refers to a pastor, we are to be submissive too. This does not mean we should blindly follow anyone who claims to be a pastor, but when we do find a godly pastor that is teaching us the truth of God's Word if we take a none submissive attitude always trying to disprove the Bible we are not going to receive the truths of God's Word, thus resisting the Holy Spirit's ability to teach us the Word of God. Godly leadership is given to us to help us develop our walk with God and even show us in what way our lives are wrong (2 Tim. 4:2) AMP.

Jude 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

What can we do to refill our spiritual tanks? One of the easiest ways to do so is once you have been born again and baptized in the Holy Spirit as in Acts chapter two, then you can pray in your heavenly language, and as Jude states here in doing so you are building yourself up on your most holy faith. Praying in the Holy Spirit release the Spirit of God within us to speak through us. This is one of the main reasons the devil has fought so hard to discredit the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He does not want us overflowing with God's presence.

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Another way to fill our spiritual tank is in prayer and praise, especially when you get together with believers who are focused upon God and their prayer and praise comes from the heart. What often hinders God from bringing a fresh outpouring of His Spirit is when the church is not

worshipping and praying from their hearts. The more we do the more of God's presence we can experience filling our lives and overflowing from us. So if you want to stay full of God don't grieve, quench, nor resist the Holy Spirit. Pray in your heavenly language often, and enter in to His presence with prayer and praise from the heart. If you would like more information on being baptized in the Holy Spirit just [click here](#) and send us your address and we will be glad to send you a free booklet telling you more about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Keep your spiritual tank full and you won't get stranded on the side of the road of life.