

The Holy Spirit: Be Filled with the Spirit

Do no be drunk with wine....; but be filled with the Spirit. (Eph. 5:18)

The Holy Spirit has been given to us as a true gift which God is pleased to call a deposit, a first installment of our eternal inheritance. It is like receiving “heaven on earth” and the good news is that we are encouraged to be filled with the Spirit, this heaven on earth, to overflowing! (Ephesians 1:13-14, 2 Corinthians 5:5) The Holy Spirit gives us the power to be faithful to the Lord in all things and bear MUCH good fruit, fruit that will last. This is what his disciples were, and we have been appointed to do according to the very words of Jesus! (John 15:16b) When we bear this fruit in our lives, we help to usher in the Kingdom of God, “on earth as it is in heaven.”

How do we become FILLED with the Holy Spirit to overflowing?

It has been said that to be filled with the Holy Spirit is not the challenge of us getting more of the Spirit, rather it is the challenge of the Spirit getting more of us!

So, perhaps a better question is – how do we make room for the Holy Spirit in our lives? It appears there is “an emptying of self” that has to take place in order for us to be filled with the Holy Spirit. And Jesus gave us his example! See Phil. 2:7a.

1. Out of a deep sense of humility, we must submit our will to God’s.
2. We must become obedient to what we know God is calling us to be – abiding in Christ and honoring the Lord with every choice we make.
3. We must immerse ourselves in knowing God through Christ Jesus better and better. Studying scripture, praying (in the Spirit, Eph. 6:18), worshipping, and serving the Lord and others will increase our spiritual understanding and faithfulness. (Psalm 119:11, 15-16.)
4. We must ask the Spirit to continually fill us, lead and guide us, and enable us to bear the fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:16) That fruit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5: 25)

May the Spirit get more of us and may we get more of the Spirit!