

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

Phil O. Waldo
Lead Pastor



1224 Hancock Drive
Boone, Iowa 50036

Phone: 515 432-3329

Website: www.booneopenbible.com
E-mail: office@booneopenbible.com
pastor@booneopenbible.com

SERMON TITLE The Pursuit of the Holy Spirit, part 2

SERIES We Need the Holy Spirit

DATE 5/15/2022

KEY SCRIPTURE Ephesians 5:18-20; Galatians 5:16-25

SYNOPSIS Though we have the Spirit, we need to keep on being filled.

HIGHLIGHTS Closing with Men's Huddle



We Need the Holy Spirit

☞ **The Pursuit of the Holy Spirit**, part two

Last week focused on the initial event of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. How to be Baptized in the Holy Spirit: **1. Believe, 2. Desire, 3. Ask, 4. Expect.** This week we'll focus on how to keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit:

☞ **Ephesians 5:18-20 NLT**

Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, **be filled with the Holy Spirit, singing** psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and **making music** to the Lord in your hearts. And **give thanks** for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Drunk vs. Filled; Both: Talk differently; Act differently; Think differently; Feel differently
"Under the influence" Drunk: "impaired" Filled: "improved"

Basic question: How does a person get drunk? With a sip?

To be filled is ongoing and imperative... "I command you, let yourself keep on being filled." You need to keep on being filled because you leak. This world and our own sinful nature tend to deplete us of the Holy Spirit's influence. So, we need to keep on being filled.

How do you keep on being filled?

☞ **1. Sing to God – sing and make music**

Sing Psalms = a song accompanied by an instrument – we do this every Sunday morning; and, on your own, you can play an instrument or stream worship songs.

= A song with instruments only – sometimes we don't sing, but just let music play.

= This word also includes original songs written by you or members of the congregation.

Hymns = a song of praise to God; a prayer that is sung – pretty much all of our Sunday music falls into this category.

Spiritual songs = any song that is sung and inspired by the Holy Spirit – we would call this open worship, when the instruments play and we just sing spontaneously. You can use your spiritual language in this type of song.

1 Corinthians 14:15

I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.



Also, there's a contrast in the original language between Hymns and Spiritual Songs. Hymns are typically part of the planned worship. Spiritual Songs have more of a spontaneous nature. So, our worship team has a planned order of music, but allows the leader freedom to adapt as they feel led. When we sing praise to God at church with each other, we are opening the door for the Holy Spirit to fill us again and again.

☞ **Make music in your heart** = don't just go through the motions; don't just say the words; mean what you say; involve your heart. The music and singing we do is not about what you want. It's about glorifying and growing close to God. Are you thinking about the words of the song? Are you attentive to God or just assessing the service? Get your heart involved!

John 4:23

Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.

We talk a lot about seeking after God. Here, we find that God is actually doing the seeking of certain people; People who will worship in spirit and in truth.

All of this singing and music is a significant part of how we are continually filled with the Holy Spirit. If you are not participating in the music and worship, you're missing out on a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit. Preaching speaks primarily to the mind. But worship connects your spirit with the Holy Spirit. Sing praise to God.

☞ 2. Speak Gratitude

Always giving thanks. Christians should be known as grateful people. Who has received better benefits than born-again believers?

Psalms 103:2-5

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits — 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

--Vincent De Paul... We should spend as much time in thanking God for his benefits as we do in asking him for them.

1 Thessalonians 5:18-19

18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire...

This suggests that an ungrateful attitude will actually work against the Holy Spirit continually filling you.



☞ **For everything** = in 1 Thessalonians gratitude is to be expressed *in* all circumstances; here, it is to be expressed *for* everything. This one stretches our faith. Do you believe anything in your life happens without God knowing about it? Do you believe that God is always working for your good? Even in the stuff that we consider not good? Romans 8:28.

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Table talk: Name one thing you're thankful for right now.

☞ **Start timer**

Sing praise and speak gratitude

☞ **Galatians 5:16-25** (*also gives us a couple of ways to keep on being filled*)

16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want... 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified the sinful nature** with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us **keep in step with the Spirit**.

☞ **3. Stop the Sin**

I already mentioned that we can put out the Spirit's fire when we are ungrateful. And, Ephesians 4:30 says we can grieve the Holy Spirit when we are angry and unforgiving with each other. In Galatians, there's a list of sins that work against the Holy Spirit. If we want to keep on being filled with the Spirit, then we must deal with these sins.

☞ **Sexual immorality** = any improper sexual activity, including pornographic materials.

Impurity = anything evil, including thoughts and actions.

Debauchery = following your own evil desires to the point of having no shame.

Idolatry = allowing anything to take precedence over God.

Witchcraft = sorcery, spiritism and even the use of illicit drugs.

Hatred

Discord = quarreling; antagonism.

Jealousy = resentful envy; overly suspicious.

Fits of rage

Selfish ambitions

Dissensions & factions = lack of unity, sometimes to the point of having feuds.

Envy = resentful dislike of one who has something you want.

Drunkenness

Orgies



Some of these seem so far out, but the Apostle was writing to believers, so we also must take note regarding all of these things.

v. 24 ... **crucified** = not just resisted or filtered, but outright killed. Let's not miss this point. Sin is attractive and most of us have favorite sins that we kind of like to keep around. But, in reality, sin is our enemy. Stop the sin.

☞ 4. Surrender to the Spirit

Live by the Spirit = let your life be sustained by his presence. This implies a daily, moment by moment connection with God.

☞ **Desire what the Spirit desires = conform to him.** Romans 8:5 tells us to set our minds on what the Spirit desires. Romans 12:2 reminds us to renew our minds; to change our ways of thinking. There are old, sinful patterns ingrained in our minds that must be dealt with in order to think as the Spirit does.

☞ **Be led by the Spirit = follow him;** surrender. Romans 8:8-9, 14 says, "Those who are controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. 9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit... 14 those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God."

v. 25 ...**Keep in step with the Spirit** = follow closely; take cues from him. He is developing spiritual fruit in us and we must cooperate with his work. Keeping in step requires focus.

--Andrew Murray... I, who have been bought with the blood of Christ, have been bought to live every day with the one thought—How can I please my Master? Oh, we find the Christian life so difficult because we seek for God's blessing while we live in our own will.

The Holy Spirit is continually speaking and prompting you. Are you listening? Are you obeying? These are keys to keeping filled with the Holy Spirit. Last week I pointed out that when he comes, he plans to be in charge. **Are you allowing him to be in charge?**

Romans 12:1

offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship.

"Lord, whatever you will..." "Lord, whenever you will..."

"Lord, whoever you will..." "Lord, wherever you will..."

"Lord, for whatever reason you..." "Lord, however you will..."

☞ **Keep being filled...1 Sing to God; 2 Speak Gratitude; 3 Stop the Sin; 4 Surrender to the Spirit**

Men's Huddle