

Being Filled With The Holy Spirit, Men's Retreat 2025

Summary: To be filled with The Spirit is to experience Jesus Christ living through me. The life He lived upon earth, He now desires to live through us. To be filled with The Spirit is to have the very life of Jesus Christ overflowing and spilling out of us, as a river of living water, that we might be made a blessing to others and to God by our conduct, words, thoughts, etc. We are commanded to continually be filled with The Holy Spirit; it is not optional. Every hour we spend not filled with Him, is sin. But how can we be filled? Are there requirements? Must I do something? Is there anything that can hinder me from being filled with The Spirit? Or things I can do that will help?

- I. Acts 1:1-2 – *Jesus is still doing and teaching; now, He does it through us by The Spirit in us*
- II. Ephesians 5:15-21 – *Do not be unwise; redeem the time, allow yourself to be filled with The Spirit; do not waste any more time not being filled with The Spirit – Remain open to The Spirit's filling, doing those things which are conducive and avoiding those which are not*
 - a. John 7:37-39
 - b. Genesis 26:15-18
 - c. **What does being filled with The Spirit look like?**
 - i. Song of Solomon 4:15-5:1 – *We are a garden. Truly, it is Jesus' garden. Our fruit is for Him and others.*
 1. **At the center is a fountain of living waters** – *Our hearts transformed and made new by The Spirit*
 2. C.f., Proverbs 4:23
 3. Ezekiel 34:26 – *Am I being a blessing? Is my fruit a blessing? – Are you praying for something to be blessed? You are the answer to the prayer*
 - a. C.f., Song of Solomon 2:2-3, 2 Samuel 23:6-7
 - b. Genesis 2 – **The River of Living Waters**
 - i. **Proceeds out of God's throne, out of New Jer.**
 1. C.f., our hearts
 2. C.f., Garden of Eden
 - ii. Ezekiel 47:1, 8-9
 1. *The River in Eden was to water the garden, but also left the Garden and went elsewhere*
 - iii. **Pison (Overflowing)**
 1. John 10:10 – *Abundant/Overflowing*
 - a. 1 Timothy 5:6 – *Dead while she lives (living in pleasure)*
 - b. Revelation 3:1 – *Name that you live, but are dead*
 - c. John 17:3 – *Eternal life*
 2. John 7:37-39
 - a. Genesis 26:15 – *Die to self; kill the Philistines*
 - i. 2 Corinthians 4:8-12
 - iv. **Gihon (Bursting forth)**
 1. John 4:13-14 – *Leaping up*
 - a. Acts 3:6-9 – *Leaping up; the right season*
 - b. Acts 14:8-10 – *Leaping up; loosed, unbound*
 - v. **Hiddekel (Rapid)**
 1. Numbers 14:23-24 – *Another Spirit*
 - a. Numbers 13:26-30; 14:1-9 – *The Spirit is quick to obey*
 - vi. **Euphrates (Fruitfulness, fruit bearing)**
 1. Galatians 5:21-22
 - a. 1 Corinthians 13:1-8
 - III. Luke 11:13 – *Jesus says to be asking for The Spirit. I must see The Spirit as necessary as bread and fish. C.f., multiplying miracle of bread and fish*

- a. I can ask for The Spirit, but I still don't feel as though I am filled. Is there anything else I can do? Are there things I should not do?

i. Jesus' birth – **Requirements**

1. Luke 2:7 – *Jesus born into a feeding trough (we are the trough)*
 - a. C.f., Ex 29:43 – *Jesus' presence makes it special/sanctifies*
 - i. Ephesians 2:22 – *We are a habitation for God*
2. Matthew 2:11 – *Jesus next in the home*
 - a. Gold – *Faith*
 - i. Romans 8:11, Romans 4:19-21
 - b. Frankincense – *Service to God (motive/goal)*
 - i. Joel 2:29
 - c. Myrrh – *Dying to self*
 - i. 2 Corinthians 4:10-11
 - ii. Romans 8:11-14
 - iii. Isaiah 25:5, 6
3. *After the home and gifts, into Egypt/the world*

ii. **Actions/things that hinder us being filled with The Spirit**

1. **Seeing your need, being thirsty**

- a. Isaiah 55:1-2 – ***Thirsty, no money***
 - i. Luke 6:20, Romans 14:17 – *I need The Spirit to produce/give me these things*
- b. Isaiah 44:3-4; 41:17-18, 20 – *Thirsty. And so that God gets the credit*
 - i. John 7:37

2. **Unconfessed sin, living in sin**

- a. Psalms 32:3-5 – *Keeping silent/keeping sin hidden dries you up*
 - i. Hosea 5:15-6:3 – *Acknowledge and turn from sin*
- b. Example: **hidden sin strips us of God's power**
 - i. Joshua 6:18 – *The command*
 - ii. Joshua 7:1 – *The sin*
 - iii. Joshua 7:4-5 – *The results*
 - iv. Joshua 7:10-12, 20-21 – *The sin was hidden*
 1. Psalms 125:2-3 – *Putting forth the hand/purposing to sin, causes us to come short of the promise/part of our inheritance: The Spirit*
 - v. Ezekiel 13:10-11 – **Don't plaster over defeats, over fractures in the wall. Be honest with God, find the true source, don't plaster over it**
 - vi. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 – ***How many people will die because of you?***
- c. Example: **Enjoying the enemy's vine brings weakness**
 - i. Judges 16:4
 1. Delilah = Feeble, weak
 2. Sorek = Choicest vine (in a valley)
 - ii. Judges 16:6 – *Enemy's intentions are clear*
 - iii. Judges 16:7-9 – *Continued playing and living in sin, trapped by lust*
 1. Judges 16:16-20 – *Gave in again, despite resisting for a while; thought everything was ok – I can just get free again, but The LORD was departed*
 - a. Pride in thinking too he was the strength, not The LORD
- d. Proverbs 1:23 – ***Turn at reproof!***
 - i. In both examples, restoration is available.
 1. Joshua – Achan & Hope, Hosea 2:14-15

2. Samson – His hair began to grow again
3. **Disobedience, not willing to obey**
 - a. Psalms 68:6 – *The rebellious dwell in a dry land*
 - i. Rebellious here, “... [turned aside] in opposition or disobedience; obstinate in non-compliance...**unmanageable**; obstinately unyielding...applied to metals, difficult of fusion; not easily yielding to the force of heat.”
 - b. 2 Corinthians 1:20 – *Promises fulfilled for God’s glory*
 - i. Galatians 3:14 – *Holy Spirit is the promise*
 - c. ***Why do you want The Spirit? Is it to obey God’s word and glorify Him? To be Jesus’ witness to others for His glory? Or is it to feel better, be well like/honored, or other fleshly things?***
4. **Accusing, condemning, finger pointing**
 - a. Zechariah 4:9-10, John 8:4-7 – **Put down the stones, pick up what God has given you to use**
 - i. Isaiah 58:9, 11 – **No finger pointing, accusing others**
 - ii. Revelation 12:10 – *One accuser. The Spirit doesn’t support Satan’s work*
 1. Zechariah 3:1-2 – *The LORD’s attitude toward accusers: I rebuke you*
 - b. Mark 5:5, Romans 8:1 – **Stop condemning yourself too**
 - i. Romans 8:33-34
5. **Pride**
 - a. Acts 9:17-18 – *Paul’s testimony, not mentioning the filling of The Spirit*
 - i. Acts 4:13 – *In power, not in word. People ought to be able to see*
 1. 1 Corinthians 4:20
 - ii. Job 41:15-16 – *Scales of pride fell off first*
 - b. James 4:6
 - i. Ephesians 5:21
 - ii. 1 Peter 5:5
 - iii. Isaiah 57:15; 66:2
 - c. **Examples from Jesus’ life**
 - i. Psalms 37:17; 75:3 – *Upholds the righteous; bears up the pillars of the earth*
 - ii. Isaiah 66:13 – *Comforts as a mother*
 1. Luke 1:31 – *And yet, Jesus humbled Himself to be comforted, to accept help, aid, etc.*
 - a. ***Some of us refuse to accept prayer, aid, help***
 - iii. 1 Kings 18:27 – *Heavens of heavens cannot contain Him*
 1. Luke 2:7, John 1:14 – *And yet, Jesus humbled Himself to be contained by earth, the world, a feeding trough, flesh*
 - a. ***Some of us refuse to be contained by limitations for the benefit of our wives, brothers, others, etc***
 - iv. Isaiah 6:2 – *Even angels had to hide their face. GLORY*
 1. Romans 8:4, Isaiah 53:2 – *And yet, Jesus humbled Himself to an unrecognizable and ugly/normal body*
 - a. ***Some of us are upset when others don’t recognize us or feel entitled to honor***
 - v. Psalms 104:27 – *All wait upon Him for food*
 1. Luke 11:27 – *Jesus humbled Himself to be nursed, to be fed, to learn*
 - a. ***Some of us refuse to be made a meal, bought a meal, taught by others***

- vi. Deuteronomy 30:6 – *The circumciser of hearts*
 - 1. Luke 2:21 – *Jesus humbled Himself to be circumcised*
 - a. ***Some of us will not humble ourselves to be vulnerable and open with God or others***
 - vii. Psalms 113:5; 11:4 – *Throne in heaven*
 - 1. Luke 2:7 – *Jesus humbled Himself to not be everyone's priority. The inn had no room*
 - a. ***Some of us are entitled to certain treatment, to be welcomed, to a reserved space***
 - viii. Psalms 145:9 – *Good to all*
 - 1. John 1:46, Micah 5:2 – *Jesus humbled Himself to be born in places of bad reputation, small reputation*
 - a. ***Some of cannot bear to be associated with people or places lower than us***
 - ix. Revelation 4:11 – *Created all things*
 - 1. Mark 13:55; 6:3 – *Jesus humbled Himself to be a carpenter*
 - a. ***Some of us refuse to do work below our "pay grade"***
 - x. Isaiah 9:6 – *The Everlasting Father*
 - 1. Luke 2:51 – *Obedient to parents*
 - a. ***Some us will not be subject to anyone, are above reproof, instruction***
 - xi. Isaiah 6:3 – *Singing holy, holy, holy day and night*
 - 1. Psalms 69:12 – *Came to be the song of the drunkards*
 - 2. Luke 7:34 – *Called a glutton and drunkard*
 - a. ***Some of us must be understood, must defend ourselves, must justify ourselves, must have praise and be liked***
 - xii. Colossians 2:3 – *All wisdom and knowledge*
 - 1. Mark 3:21, John 7:15 – *Assumed to be out of His mind and unlearned*
 - a. ***Some of us must be seen as wise, as intelligent, must put our education on display***
6. **Disunity, arguing**
- a. Acts 2:1
 - b. Acts 4:24
 - i. Galatians 5:22
 - ii. 1 Thessalonians 5:23
 - iii. James 3:18
 - iv. Proverbs 13:10
- iii. **Helps to being filled: comprehending/knowing Jesus' love for me**
- 1. Ephesians 3:16-19