

Series: Wealth and Walk of a Christian
"Spirit-Filled" Pt. 2
Eph. 5:19-21
12-10-17 Sun AM

In v. 18 Paul states two commands. Then in vs. 19-21 we see five participles that give the evidences of the Spirit controlling the believer.

It is this second command I want to talk about for the next two Sunday mornings. The overall context is spirit-Filled relationships (5:18-6:4).

Q- Last week- **Q-** What does it mean to be spirit-Filled and how do we do that?

This morning- **Q-** What are the evidences of being filled? How does it flesh out in our life with others?

I. Singing to the Lord [v. 19].

It is difficult to know exactly what Paul meant by three types of songs in this verse. I have heard many interpretations on this verse- psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.

Let me share four insights I see in verse:

1. We can know that singing has varied forms.
2. Substance is more important than style. It's not important whether its praise, hymns, choruses, or southern Gospel; But does it meet Biblical criteria? Paul's point is that Christian music has a variety of forms.

John Piper says, "*Singing is the Christians way of saying: God is so great that thinking will not suffice, there must be deep feeling; and talking will not suffice, there must be singing.*"

Bob Deffinbaugh says, "*The music of which Paul speaks is not considered apart from its lyrics. The lyrics of the songs we sing are instructional. We sing to one another. In so doing, we speak to one another, by means of the lyrics of the songs we sing (5:19).*"

3. Our singing is for praising the Lord and edifying each other "to the Lord" and "to yourselves."

When we gather for corporate worship we to sing, we are praising God and ministering to each other. We should sing biblical songs and sing to be understood so that the doctrine in the songs can minister.

4. Note the phrase “singing and making melody [music].”

We do this from a regenerate Spirit-filled heart. I am glad Paul said to make melody with our hearts, and not our voices!

Churches who sing the world’s music, try to generate worship, while churches who sing biblical music do it from a regenerate hearts. See the difference!

I. Singing to the Lord [v. 19].

II. Giving thanks (v. 20).

Paul says we have a constant attitude of gratitude to God in the name of Jesus.

Phil. 4:6, Be **careful** for nothing; but **in** everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. **7**. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep [guard] your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Col. 3:16-17, Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. **17**. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

This is why I ask for praise and thanksgiving in the gathered church. It glorifies the Lord and edifies other believers.

Are you known for ongoing thanksgiving or for complaining, murmuring, and pouting? When we understand what he has done for us in chapters 1-3, we should live in constant gratitude for his amazing grace!!!

What are the evidences of being filled with the Spirit?

I. Singing to the Lord [v. 19].

II. Giving thanks (v. 20).

III. Submitting (v. 21).

Remember the context of 5:18. It is spirit-filled relationships (5:18-6:9).

Before speaking of submission in the marriage, parents and children, and work, Paul speaks of submission to one another in the church (vs. 19-21).

If one is Spirit-filled they will be submissive, especially to one another in the church. John Stott said, ‘If a person is acting brashly, arrogant, or self-assertive, they are not walking in the spirit.

“Submit” means “to arrange under.” It is used of subordination of soldiers in an army who come under their superiors. We are to submit to each other in the church, our marriage, and workplace.

The motive is clear in the verse. We submit in the fear of the Lord or reverence for Christ. Jesus Christ is the ultimate authority.

The word fear can mean terror or awe. Out of reverence for him, we gladly submit to his rule and serve others.

If we don't submit to each other we are not Spirit-filled.

If you are filled or under the control of the Spirit, there will a song in your heart, thanksgiving to God, and submission to each other.