



Holy Spirit: Filled

Some Christians don't know what to think about the Holy Spirit. Thankfully, God gives us truth after truth about the Spirit in His Word. The book of Ephesians is full of wisdom about the Spirit's work. It begins by telling us the Holy Spirit's role in salvation. Near the end of this same letter, Christians are commanded to "be filled" with the Spirit. This short two part series will examine these passages to find out what they mean for Christians.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 What have you previously heard taught or seen practiced about the filling of the Holy Spirit? If this a new topic for you, what were your initial thoughts? If this was familiar, did you hear anything that brought a new perspective?

2 **Read Ephesians 1:13-14 and 5:15-18.** How would you describing the difference between being sealed by the Spirit and being filled with the Spirit?

3 In Ephesians 5:18, "**Be filled by the Holy Spirit**" is not a suggestion. It is a command. But how do you obey a passive command? Why do you think Paul would command believers to have something done to them?

4 **Read Ephesians 5:18-20.** Here we see that a **Spirit-filled community is engaged in heartfelt worship.** Take a moment and share with the group an especially powerful or meaningful time of worship you remember. Have there been seasons

when your heart struggled to engage in worship? Share about your journey through that time in your life.

5 In addition to heartfelt worship, a **Spirit-filled community is grateful to God in all things.** In 15-30 seconds of silence pick something you want to thank God for. Take turns and share with why you're grateful to God. After sharing: What happens to our minds and hearts when we spend time in thanksgiving like that?

6 **Read Ephesians 3:14-21.** This prayer brings together the Spirit's wisdom & power from Ephesians 1 and the Spirit's filling in Ephesians 5. And the focus is all on the love of God displayed in Jesus. Why does knowing this love transform us? How should this prayer influence our own prayers? Finish by praying for God to make us a Spirit-filled community, and to pray for all generations to know God's amazing love.

