

GOSPEL of *Grace*
FELLOWSHIP

Ephesians 5:18-20

**Sober, Spirit-Filled
and Praising God**

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Three Contrastive Exhortations
Ephesians 5:15-18

- Not Unwise **But Wise**
- Not Foolish **But Comprehending**
- Not Drunk **But Filled With the Spirit**

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Do Not Be Drunk

Ephesians 5:18a (NASB)
And do not get drunk with wine, for that is **dissipation**,

- “Not being drunk with wine” is imperative in Greek and a citation of Prov. 23:31 LXX
- There was a cult of Dionysus in Ephesus where devotees got drunk in their worship
- “dissipation” is *asotia* which implies squandering (adj. form used for prodigal)

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Be Spirit-Filled

Ephesians 5:18b (NASB)
but be filled with the Spirit,

- Lit. “be filled in spirit” (present passive imperative with God as implied agent)
- The dative “spirit” with the preposition “en” could mean “by the Spirit”; “with the Spirit” or “in the sphere of the Spirit”
- “but” is “*alla*” which is a strong adversative; Spirit-filled is the commanded alternative to “drunk with wine”

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Spirit-Filled Corporate Worship

Ephesians 5:19 (NASB)
speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing** and **making melody** with your heart to the Lord;

- Paul uses 5 present participles: speaking, singing, psalming, giving thanks (vs. 20) and being subject (vs. 21)
- Greek = *Psalmos, humnos, o_de_* are behind our words “psalms, hymns, odes”

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Thankful, Spirit-Filled Believers

Ephesians 5:20 (NASB)
always **giving thanks** for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father

- “giving thanks” is *eucharisteo_* which means to be thankful because of having received a benefit as in the Lord’s Supper
- Being Spirit-filled makes thankful people
- Paul teaches these things so we can take stock of our lives and attitudes

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Implications and Applications

- We must be different than the pagans
- Our joy cannot depend on external events
- We must be characterized by praise because praise is grounded in the person and character of God Himself

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Not Like the Pagans

1 Peter 4:3, 4 (NASB)

For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries. In all this, **they are surprised that you do not run with them** into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you;

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Joy Is a Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22 (NASB)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

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Characterized by Praise

Revelations 15:3, 4 (NASB)

And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "**Great and marvelous are Your works**, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations! "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; For all the nations will come and worship before You, For Your righteous acts have been revealed."

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