

Filled to Overflowing

The Spirit of Life - Week 8 (12-15-21)

Sowing to the Spirit = being filled with the Spirit - **Matt. 5:6**

- I. The importance of being filled with the right things - **Galatians 6:7-10**
 - A. Let's not be mistaken about what it means to be filled.
 - B. Having something with us and upon us is not the same as being filled with.
 - C. I'll let you decide which is the best choice. **Eph. 5:18-21**
 - D. When a person fills themselves with alcohol or drugs their nature changes.
 - E. No one becomes intoxicated with one sip
- II. He invites us to taste and see who and what we are about to be filled with. - **Psalms 34:8**
 - A. How do we determine whether or not we like something? We taste it (We're not filled at that point)
 - B. The tasting is not to determine whether or not we like what God has called us to do or say and then opt-out; often it requires sacrifice.
 - C. When Jesus tasted death for us it was bitter - **Heb. 2:9-10**
 - D. He sacrificed Himself and endured the bitter, so we could be better.
 - E. Hunger usually drives us to be filled.
 - F. Think for a moment about your very favorite food; doesn't that make your whole face happy?
 - G. While we are being filled is awesome, but when we are at the place of fullness we find contentment.
 - H. Christians often wrestle with the thought of contentment, whether it is good or bad - **1 Tim. 6:6-10**
 - I. It is just human nature when we feel content, we fall asleep (naturally and spiritually).
- III. What we put in our vessel reveals what kind of person we are. - **Matt. 12:33** (A positive identification)
 - A. We have to be careful about what we fill ourselves with. - **2 Cor. 6:14-18**
 - 1. What is on the inside will eventually effect the outside too.
 - B. We all know that if we put bad things in our body that is going to have a negative effect on us.
 - 1. What about bitterness, hatred, envy, strife, unforgiveness, all these things do to the spiritual man, what alcohol and drugs do to the natural man.
 - C. What about the drunken brethren church? Will they make it?
 - D. I'm really not advocating drunkenness here tonight, even though it has been referenced many times. On the contrary I want you to be filled with the spirit of God.
 - E. The bottom line is, the "thou shalt not's" of scripture points us away from what we don't need and points us toward what we do need.
 - F. We are vessels made by design to be filled only by our designer, not an imposter.

G. It is not ok to just be filled with something, no more than it is to fill your gas tank with water.

IV. Accountability for what God has blessed us with and called us to

A. Jesus taught us a lot about accountability in the parables He spoke.

B. The parable of the talents is a good place to start. - **Matt. 25:14-30**

C. There are 25 or 30 parables you can read and study on the subject of accountability.

D. Remember we are accountable to the one who is counting on us.