

Condition of this action: “in the fear of Christ.”

What does Paul mean by fear of Christ?

Fear of Christ: to have reverence and lowliness towards Jesus because of who He is.

2 Cor. 5:11 “fear of the Lord”/2 Cor. 7:1 “fear of God”

Ephesians 6:5 “Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ.”

Point: being filled with the Spirit means the believer will serve others submissively because Christ is _____ viewed with reverence.

BLANKS: rescue, mindfully, dominant, heartfelt, unconditional, properly

Discussion Questions:

1. **What does it mean to live carefully according to Eph. 5:15? Would you say that you live carefully? What makes living carefully wise?**
2. **What does it mean to redeem the time? Why does Paul want Christians to redeem the time since “the days are evil?” What does this look like in your own life?**
3. **Look at the three expressions of those who are “filled with the Spirit” in v.19-21. What does each expression refer to and why are each important to the Christian life? According to the listed expressions, would you say that you are filled with the Spirit?**

During the week:

Bible Reading for next week’s lesson: Ephesians 5:22-33

Trek: memorize 4.1 and start reading Jude

Journey: memorize 7.1 and start reading Zephaniah

Alternate: memorize 1 Timothy 2:5

Dates To Remember:

- **March 14 Skating at Logansport**
- **March 12 SNAC @Gray’s House**

Series: Ephesians

Topic: Walking in Wisdom/Being Filled with the Spirit

Text: Ephesians 5:15-21

Date: 2/21/2023

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1. Walking in Wisdom (v.15-17)

Ephesians 5:15 “Therefore be careful how you walk”

Greek word order: “be careful, therefore, precisely walking”

“be careful” *blepo* – (verb) to intentionally lookout for or earnestly contemplate; take heed (emphasis on sight).

“careful” *akribos* – (adverb) describes doing something with precision, accuracy, and carefulness.

What does Paul want us to be careful doing?

“walk” – how a Christian lives

What does it look like to live carefully? v.15b - 16

- A. Living as one who knows the truth, not one who ignores it or lacks it. (v.15b)
“not as unwise men, but as wise”
 - “unwise”: those without wisdom; fools (lack knowledge of the truth)
 - “wise”: those with wisdom (knowledge of the truth)
- B. Making the most of time during one’s life (v.16).

Ephesians 5:16 “making the most of your time, because the days are evil.”

“making the most” *exagorazō* - to buy out of the hands of a person; to redeem, set free, to rescue from loss or misapplication.

Colossians 4:5 “Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.”

“time” *kairos* – the time God has sovereignly allotted for an individual to remain alive on earth.

Why do we need to redeem our time? “because the days are evil”

“evil” *poneros* – the active form of evil, bad, and unsound.

Point: walking carefully requires the Christian to _____ time from being wasted and spend time doing that which will have eternal value past the present life.

Summary of Walking in Wisdom (v.17):

Ephesians 5:17 “So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

“foolish” *aphron* – to be devoid or without good sense or sound judgement

“understand” *syniēmi* – to set or bring together; to understand, comprehend thoroughly

“what the will of the Lord is” – that which the Lord desires to see done or accomplished

Point: to live carefully means to _____ please God in everything we do.

2. Be filled with the Spirit (v.18-21)

Ephesians 5:18 “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit”

“be filled with the Spirit” *pleroo* – to be completely full of something, to pervade; to be under the influence of or possessed fully by

What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

Filled with the Spirit: the spiritual condition where the Holy Spirit is the most _____ force of influence and direction in our life through our submitting to Him.

Three Outpourings of Being Filled with the Spirit (v.19-21)

A. Heartfelt worship through speaking truth in praise, singing, and making music in the gathering of the church (v.19)

Ephesians 5:19 “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord”

“heart” – the center of a person's will, emotions, and thinking.

Worship: the heartfelt speaking/singing of truth to God to praise and exalt Him.

Point: being filled with the Spirit produces a _____ worship that adores God and builds up fellow brothers and sisters in Christ around us.

B. Being thankful for all things at all times (v.20)

Ephesians 5:20 “always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father”

“always” - which means at all times.

“all things” - which means in every circumstance, experience, event, etc.

Point: being filled with the Spirit means a person is characterized by _____ thanksgiving.

C. Being submissive to other believers because of Christ (v.21)

Ephesians 5:21 “and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.”

“be subject” *hypotassō* – (military term) to place or arrange under; to subordinate; to rank under

Mark 10:42–45 “Calling them to Himself, Jesus *said to them, “You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”