

THANKFULNESS: AN EVIDENCE & OBLIGATION OF A SPIRIT- FILLED LIFE

A Discipleship Tool Based on Eph. 5:18-21

Eph. 5:15 "Be very careful, then, how you live
--not as unwise but as wise,
16 making the most of every opportunity,
because the days are evil.
17 Therefore do not be foolish,
but understand what the Lord's will is.
18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery.
Instead, be filled with the Spirit.
19 Speak to one another with psalms,
hymns and spiritual songs.
Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,
20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything,
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." NIV

How would you summarize vs. 15, 16?

In light of vs. 15 & 16 we are not to / to:
vs. 17 do not

but

vs. 18 do not

but

What does a Spirit-filled / controlled life look like according to Eph. 5:18-21? (See also Col. 3:1-25; Gal. 5:16-26)?

v Speaking _____:

v Singing _____:

v Saying Thanks _____:

v Submitting _____:

FOCUSING ON THANKFULNESS - vs. 20:

always giving thanks: "Always" refers to time.

When or on what occasions is it easy for you to thank God?

When do you find it harder to thank God?

to God the Father: Undirected thanks is like an un-aimed gun. Giving someone or something credit due to God is blasphemous. How do these verses address this?

Rom. 1:18-23

Psalm 100

for everything: Everything? Does He really mean everything? What are some things, events, people whom you have a hard time being thankful for?

How can these passages help you thank God for everything?

Romans 5:3-5

Romans 8:26-30

James 1:2-5, 12

in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Jesus is our access and authority to bring thanks to God. It is through Him that we give acceptable thanks. How do these verses address this:

Col. 1:15-18

John 1:1-3