

# Walk in the Spirit

## Ephesians 5:15-21

Lesson 19

### FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What did you glean from your study last week about:

a. Walking in *love*

b. Walking in the *light*

2. The Christian walk is not an easy walk. Jesus said, *Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it* (Matthew 7:14). Christians deal with temptations, trials, and spiritual opposition. Therefore, divine power is absolutely essential for a victorious and fruitful walk! The divine power we need is bountifully supplied to us by the Spirit of God.

Paul used the word *walk* seven times in his letter to the Ephesians. He chose this word to describe the conduct believers should have. In Ephesians 5:15-21 Paul wrote about the essential power God has given through His Spirit for a victorious Christian *walk*. As you consider this essential supply, write the main thought or instruction from each of the passages below:

a. Ephesians 5:15-16

b. Ephesians 5:17

c. Ephesians 5:18

d. Ephesians 5:19-21

3. Take a moment to ask God to fill you with His Spirit.

*Be filled with the Spirit.*

Ephesians 5:18

**SECOND DAY:** Read Ephesians 5:15-16

1. Based on his exhortation to walk in the *light*, rather than *darkness* (Ephesians 5:8-11), how did Paul continue to exhort the believers to *walk*? Ephesians 5:15a
  - a. In the Greek this means *to live carefully and diligently*. Why do you think this is necessary for believers?
  - b. How were the believers *not* to walk? Ephesians 5:15b
    - (1) What does this denote about the conduct of this world?
2. By contrast, how were the believers to conduct themselves? Ephesians 5:15c
  - a. According to Ephesians 5:16a, how is this wisdom characterized?
    - (1) In the NLT this phrase is rendered, *making the most of every opportunity*. How do you see the wisdom of this?
    - (2) Link this with Romans 13:11-14. What do you see?
3. Why is it important to redeem *the time*? Ephesians 5:16b
  - a. This was undoubtedly true in Paul's day. How do you see this to be true in our day?
    - (1) Link this with Jesus' description of the last days in Matthew 24:4-12 and share your thoughts.
  - b. Personally, why do you think it is important for believers to redeem *the time*?

**THIRD DAY:** Read Ephesians 5:17

1. In light of the fact that *the days are evil*, what are we *not* to do? Ephesians 5:17a
  - a. Link this with Proverbs 9:10. Share your thoughts.
  - b. What does Philippians 2:15 say about our conduct in these *days*?
2. Rather, what are we to *understand*? Ephesians 5:17b
  - a. Using Ephesians 1:17–18 and Colossians 1:9 note how we are to receive this understanding.
  - b. From the following Scriptures, note the general *will of the Lord* for all believers:
    - (1) Romans 12:2
    - (2) 1 Thessalonians 4:3
    - (3) 1 Thessalonians 5:18
    - (a) Which of these instructions speaks to you the most?
    - (b) Pastor Brian says, *Until you obey the general will of God, you won't know the specific will of God for your life*. Share your thoughts.
3. Use the Scriptures below to remark on how God reveals His specific will for our lives:
  - a. Proverbs 3:5–6
  - b. Matthew 6:33
  - (1) What has God been ministering to you about His *will* for your life?
  - (2) Why do you want to discover God's *will* for your life?

**FOURTH DAY:** Read Ephesians 5:18

1. As believers, what are we *not* to do? Ephesians 5:18a
  - a. Use the following Scriptures to note the consequences of drunkenness:
    - (1) Proverbs 23:20–21
    - (2) Proverbs 23:29–35
    - (3) Luke 21:34–35
  - b. Why do you think Paul gave this exhortation?
  - c. According to Ephesians 5:18b, what does drunkenness lead to?
    - (1) In Greek this word means *an abandoned, immoral life*. How is this a warning concerning drunkenness?
2. Instead of being *drunk with wine*, what are we to do? Ephesians 5:18c
  - a. The grammar indicates *continually being filled*. Why do you think this is necessary?
  - b. Observe and summarize the following results of being *filled with the Spirit*:
    - (1) Acts 2:4–11
    - (2) Acts 4:31
    - (3) Acts 10:44–46
3. Why do you desire to be continually *filled with the Spirit*?

**FIFTH DAY:** Read Ephesians 5:19-21

1. In Ephesians 5:19-21 Paul described some of the outworking of being *filled with the Spirit*. According to Ephesians 5:19a, how are Spirit-filled believers to speak *to one another*?
  - a. How are they to respond *to the Lord*? Ephesians 5:19b
    - (1) Link this with Colossians 3:16 and share your thoughts.
  - b. How do you think such practices would affect:
    - (1) your relationship with other believers
    - (2) your relationship with the Lord
2. From Ephesians 5:20 answer the following questions:
  - a. How often are we to be *giving thanks*?
  - b. To Whom are we to be *giving thanks*?
  - c. For what are we to be *giving thanks*?
    - (1) Why do you think *giving thanks* is essential to a victorious *walk*?
3. According to Ephesians 5:21a, what is another result of being *filled with the Spirit*?
  - a. Note and comment on how the following Scriptures clarify this:
    - (1) Matthew 23:11
    - (2) Galatians 5:13
    - (3) Colossians 3:23
  - b. From Ephesians 5:21b identify how we are to do this.
4. Share a way you would encourage someone to be *filled with the Spirit*.

