

Filled with the Holy Spirit: Finding Great Joy!

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WHAT is “being filled with the Holy Spirit”?

Being filled with the Spirit means *being filled with joy in Christ and empowered for Kingdom life and service*. Paul tells believers: “**Be filled with the Spirit**, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Eph. 5:18-19). This is joy! And the joy of the Lord is our strength (Neh. 8:10). We have *overcoming joy and power* because we are more than conquerors through Jesus Christ who loves us (Rom. 8:37). 1 John 5:4 says, “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world - our faith.” Rejoice! Infilling may also include receiving greater love for God, new spiritual gifts, greater boldness, and greater victory over temptation or sin.

WHY be filled with the Spirit?

- Receive power and authority for Kingdom service, life, and ministry.
 - John the Baptist - Luke 1:13-17 | Paul - Acts 9:17-22 | Acts 1:4-8
- Receive a joy that sets you apart and strengthens you.
 - Disciples - Acts 13:49-52 | Kingdom - Rom. 14:17
- Speak with authority and boldness. Peter - Acts 2:38-41; Acts 4:31
- Withstand and overcome temptation and sin as Jesus. Luke 4:1-14
- Speak in a heavenly language, or utterance, that edifies and builds you up.
 - Acts 2:1-12 | Jude 20-21 | Rom. 8:26-27 | 1 Cor. 14:2

HOW to be filled with the Spirit?

As we desire more of the Spirit - more joy, more power and authority - to fulfill God’s plans, we simply **ask in faith** to be filled with His Spirit (Eph. 5:18-19). Why, though, do these verses, speak of drunkenness? Instead of the merriment brought on by “natural spirits” (beer, wine), God wants us to be full of joy through **His** Spirit. Again, ask in faith! Luke 11:13 (Amplified) says, “If you, then, being evil [that is, sinful by nature], know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask *and* continue to ask Him!”



Prayer: *Father God, you are a good Father who only gives good gifts. I honor and magnify you and bring my life before your holy throne. I want more of you! Please fill me with your Spirit to overflow and help me to be an obedient servant. I offer my body a living sacrifice unto you and desire to be the vessel you ordained me to be before I was even born. My desire is to walk in a **joyous faith with a melody** in my heart. I hunger and thirst to be filled with your Spirit and will continue to ask for fresh infillings. I also ask you to give me a new prayer language. As I pray and have a time of blessed devotion with you, I have faith for a new language to flow from my lips in praise to you. I receive in Jesus’ name. Amen.*