

investigating | the reality of the Spirit
GHOST STORIES

WEEK 1: *POWER & PERSONHOOD*

WEEK 2: *PLUNGING INTO GOD*

WEEK 3: *GIFTS OF GRACE*

WEEK 4: *BEING FILLED WITH GOD*

INTRODUCTION – Review

1 Corinthians 12:13; 2 Corinthians 13:14

When you put your faith in Jesus you are plunged into God, immersed in his love, baptized in his Spirit, making you a valued member of Christ's body on earth.

Being “Spirit Filled”

Do not get drunk with wine, which will only ruin you; instead, be filled with the Spirit.
~ Ephesians 5:18 (TEV)

THE VERB IS...

1. Plural.
Hence, _____ of us are to get drunk, and _____ of us are to be filled.
2. Imperative.
Hence, _____ have responsibility to be filled. And we cannot assume it is true of our lives on any given day.
3. Present tense.
Hence, being “Spirit filled” is not a _____ that you achieve, but a way of living that should become our desire and goal.
4. Passive.
Hence, we cannot _____ this experience on our own. Instead, we seek God, and God fills us.
5. Contrasted to, not compared with, being drunk.
Hence, the issue is _____.

The Evidence/Results Of Being Spirit Filled

- Unified Fellowship – **Ephesians 5:18-21; 2 Corinthians 13:14**
- Proclamation – **Luke 1:67; Acts 1:8; 2:4; 4:8, 31**
- Guidance – **Luke 4:1**
- Wisdom – **Acts 6:3**
- Faith – **Acts 6:5; 11:24**
- Joy – **Acts 13:52**
- Hope – **Romans 15:13**
- And so much more! – **Galatians 5:22-23**

Becoming A Spirit Filled Christian

1. Don't _____ (**Ephesians 4:30**)
2. Don't _____ (**1 Thessalonians 5:19-21**)
3. Do _____ (**John 7:37-39**)

CONCLUSION – Now What?

Ephesians 3:14-19; Acts 4:31

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

WARMING UP...

1. Use your notes to review this week's message. Talk about what points most challenged, perplexed, or encouraged you. Review relevant Scriptures as needed. (Take your time – if this becomes your Bible study for this week, so be it.)

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

2. Read **John 15**. a) What verse or thought stands out to you the most? Why? b) In the parable, if the Father is the Gardener, and Jesus is the Vine, where is the Spirit in this story? c) What do you think it means to “remain” or “abide” in the vine, and how (if at all) is this related to being “filled with the Spirit”? d) Jesus talks about obeying his “commandments” (NASB/NRSV) or “commands (NIV). How are the commandments of Christ different (and the same) from Old Testament commandments? Brainstorm two lists. e) According to **verse 11**, what is Jesus' goal for us? What might that look like in your life? f) What do we learn about the role of the Holy Spirit from this passage?

SO WHAT?...

3. Read **2 Corinthians 13:14**. Jesus commanded us to love one another. Paul says that the Holy Spirit brings us true fellowship, and says we should function together like one body. Loving, caring unity for his people seems to be on God's mind quite a bit. a) Take a moment to reflect – What thoughts or attitudes or actions of yours might “grieve” the Holy Spirit by working against the unified fellowship he desires us to experience? b) What could you, should you, do this week to partner with God to change this? c) Pray for each other, for our church, and for Christ's Body worldwide.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, October 22 / 29, 2006