

Ephesians 5:18-21.3

11/8/17

Be being filled by the Spirit

Hopefully this will be the last blog this week. I continue to meditate on these passages so you are the recipients of my continued mulling over these amazing truths. I do believe that we don't really understand or appreciate what it means to be filled by the Holy Spirit. John MacArthur says, "The continuous aspect of being filled involves day by day, moment by moment submission to the Spirit's control . . . The filling is entirely the work of the Spirit Himself, but He works only through our willing submission." I think that is an accurate description. God desires to do more than we can even imagine in us and through us, but we have to be willing to let Him. (Ephesians 3:14-21) I think we settle for so little when God desires to do so much.

In Ephesians 5 Paul goes on to describe either the results of being filled by the Spirit or a description of the process. The construction here is very much like we see in the great commission. We are to make disciples going, baptizing, and teaching. Here in Ephesians 5 we are to continue being filled teaching, singing, and submitting.

Addressing or teaching one another in Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. The Bible speaks a lot about singing and the power of music. An entire tribe of Israel was dedicated to the worship of God through music. I don't think that we can make a strict delineation in types of worship music from this passage, but I think we can say that there are various kinds. The style of music is not the main concern. It is the message of the music. We are to use music as a tool for instruction. We are to encourage one another using music that causes us to meditate on God. When we worship corporately, it has impact on those around us.

Singing or making melody to the Lord in our hearts. Worship is declaring God's worth. God loves us to praise Him. Read the Psalms.