

IS THE SPIRIT'S FILLING THAT BIG OF A DEAL?

1 Corinthians 2:14

Introduction: Everyone at one time or other has emergencies, has feelings that just overwhelm and the Christian feels a compelling need to hear from God. When God does answer, there is a calm that comes and the Holy Spirit's presence becomes very apparent. The Christian's life is lived on two planes, the world's and the spiritual. The spiritual realm is unknown to those who are not Christians. The Holy Spirit's presence in the life of the Christian makes all the difference in the world.

I. ENTERING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

1. There is only ONE place to begin the Christian life and that is the place called "conversion."
- *John 14:6; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 John 5:11-12*
2. After conversion, to live the Christian life, one remains under the control of the power of the Holy Spirit. *Colossians 2:6*

II. A NECESSARY REMINDER OF WHO, AND WHOSE, THE CHRISTIAN IS

1. *1 Corinthians 6:19-20*
2. The Christian cannot live the Christian life independent of the Holy Spirit and must be obedient.
3. There is no such things a "accidents, coincidence or good luck" when the Christian is under the Holy Spirit.
4. *1 Corinthians 6:19* - The Holy Spirit is always present.
- *1 Corinthians 12:13* - The Christian is a part of Christ's body.
- *Romans 8:9* - The Holy Spirit is with the Christian at all times or not at all.

III. AN ESSENTIAL REVELATION OF WHAT THE CHRISTIAN IS

1. How is the Christian filled with the Holy Spirit?
- *Ephesians 5:1-2; 8; 5:15, 17-18*
2. The Christian is never commanded to be baptized or indwelt with the Holy Spirit, but to be filled.
- It is a command, not a request or a wish or a desire.
- The word is "plural" meaning "Every, all, are to be filled."
- Passive voice means to "let yourself be filled by the Holy Spirit."
- Present tense indicates a "continuous command, not given once in a while.
3. What happens when the Christian is filled with the Holy Spirit? (*Ephesians 5:18-21*)
- It affects the way the Christian speaks (*Colossians 3:16-17*) with his/her Christian family.
- It leads the Christian to have a happy heart (*Ephesians 5:19*).
- It makes the Christian thankful (*Ephesians 5:20*), instead of being a constant grumbler.

- It leads Christians to yield to each other (*Ephesians 5:21*) at home or anywhere else when with Church family or non Church family.
- The Christian has not only a transformed life, but his/her home is transformed as well.

CONCLUSION:

1. The Christian does not have to beg, plead for God's presence.
2. The Christian does not need to toss and turn through sleepless nights wondering why he/she isn't having the same super experience that some other brother or sister in Christ has had.
3. Abnormal experiences are not necessary to Christian maturity (as some "faiths" declare).
- *Acts 5:38-39*
4. Every Christian commanded can be filled with the Holy Spirit, but how the Holy Spirit chooses to work in each Christian' life is not the same.
5. Let every Christian enjoy the great common ground they share, rather than arguing and condemning others who are of a different persuasion.
6. Sing the hymn: "Fall Fresh On Me"