

Living In The Fullness Of God

Ephesians 5:15-18

15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,
 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.
 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.
 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,

Ephesians 3:14-19

14. For this reason I kneel before the Father,
 15. from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.
 16. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,
 17. so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,
 18. may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,
 19. and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:14-19 (MSG) - My response is to get down on my knees before the Father, this magnificent Father who parcels out all heaven and earth. I ask him to strengthen you by his Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly on love, you’ll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ’s love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.

I. Sin has to be cleaned out!

2:1 – As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

Mt. 5:29-30, “If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.”

II. Our Lives must be consecrated!

2:10 - For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2:19 - Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,

III. We have to be open!

Fear - of being different, or of change, or cost

Misconception - that somehow this is all there is - this bland, dry, religious existence

Stubbornness - A stubborn refusal to get that one foot out of the world!

1. Repent of the sin that remains in your heart!

2. Let go of the things that fill your heart and compete for God's place!

3. Open yourself to a fresh indwelling of the Spirit!

Ephesians 3:20-21

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,

21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.