

Be filled with the Spirit

A walk of prayer

Adapted from Andrew Murray, Absolute Surrender

Acts 2:4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit ...

Eph 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,

1. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is a Command and it is meant for believers
2. “Being filled with the Spirit is simply this – having my whole nature yielded to His power.

Prayer Point 1: Search my Heart.

Ask God to search your heart, to reveal any idols which you have constructed either with your hands or your thoughts and ambition. Even good things when they become “ultimate things” become idols in our life. Confess the idolatry of your heart and turn away from idols which God reveals, and have taken your love.

Psalm 139

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart!

Try me and know my thoughts!

²⁴ And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting!

Journal:

Prayer Point 2: Forsake and surrender all to follow Christ.

“Many Christians think that they receive Jesus as someone who can save them and help them, but virtually they deny Him as Master. They think they have a right to have their own will in a thousand things. They speak very much what they like, they do very much what they like, they use their property and possessions as they like; they are their own masters and they have never dreamed of saying: Jesus, I just forsake all to follow Thee.

And yet this is the demand of Christ. Christ hath such infinite riches and glory that He deserves it, and Christ is such a heavenly, spiritual divine gift that unless we give up everything, our hearts cannot be filled with Him. And so Jesus comes and says: Forsake all and follow Me.”

Luke 14 ²⁵ Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

“Dear friends, you have perhaps, never said it because you never thought it was needed; but say it *now*. Are you willing to say: O Christ, let me be filled with the Holy Spirit; I will give up anything and everything.” Please accept my surrender.

Journal:

Prayer Point 3: Die to Self:

“Dear friends, are you willing that God, with His searchlight, should discover to you how much there is in you of self-will and self-trust. ... God must first bring each one of us down into the place of death. ...

Do you know what the death of Jesus means? ... Jesus said to His Father, in effect: Here is My life, so precious to Me, My life which has been sinless. I have yielded it to Thee in life, but now I am going to yield it to Thee in death. He went into the grave saying, “Into thy hands I commit” – I give away, I intrust, “My spirit..” And you know what happened? Because He gave up His life so entirely, and sank into the thick darkness of death and the grave, God raised Him up into a new life and a new glory and a new power. ... And, believer, understand that if you want to be filled with the Spirit and the risen life of glory, you must first die to self. The apostles were men who had been brought to an utter self-despair, men who had lost all, and who were ready to receive all from God in heaven.

Journal:

Prayer Point 4: Accept the promise of the Spirit from Jesus in faith.

“You know that on that last night Christ had spoken to *His disciples* about the Holy Spirit more than once, and that when He was ready to ascend, He said again, “Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.” They did not understand it, perhaps, so much as we do. They had no conception of what would come. But they took the word of Jesus.

Now I want you to accept this promise by faith, and to say: That promise of the filling of the Holy *Spirit* is for me. I accept it at the hand of Jesus. You may not understand it; you may not feel as you would like to feel; you may feel yourself weak and sinful and far away from Jesus; but you may come *now* and say – and you have a right to say it – That promise is for me. Are you ready to do so? Are you ready in faith to trust the promise, and the word, and the love of Jesus?

Let me say, for your encouragement, that when you get a promise from God it is worth just as much as a fulfillment. ... Trust the promise, and say: This fullness of the Holy Spirit is for me.

Journal:

Prayer Point 5: Wait on God in prayer.

“The Disciples waited on God in prayer. ... They expected – and take you away this lesson – they expected God in heaven to do something. I wish I could tell you the importance of that! I find Christians – and I have found it in my own experience – who read and understand, and think, and wish, and want to claim, and want to take, and want to get, and yet what they crave for eludes their grasp. And why? Because they do not wait for God to give it.

Look to God, and expect God to do something. It is not enough to believe. I find many people mistake faith for the blessing that faith is intended to bring. By faith I am to “inherit the promises.” Oh, believe and trust God; then look to Him to give the blessing. Be ye “filled with the Holy Ghost.””

Wait / Pray / Journal