

# Who's In Charge? (Eph. 5:15-21)

*Intro: So, who runs your life? Teachers? Parents? Employer? Actually, we are all accountable to someone, but you yourself bear responsibility for your life. Like it or not, you're in charge! You alone can determine your attitudes...you alone determine to obey or disobey.*

## 1. The Call for Caution

vs. 15-17

- Be **CAREFUL** concerning your behavior.
- Be **RESPONSIBLE** as a steward of your time and opportunities.
- Be **MINDFUL** of the will of God in your life.

--Sounds like a self-control issue, doesn't it?

## 2. The Character of Control

vs. 18-21

➤ Don't be drunk.  
dissipation= Gr. *asotia*

a- negative sozo- to save
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- Dissipation is wastefulness, and the issue is not wasted wine, but a wasted **LIFE**.
- Be filled with the Spirit.
  - The Greek term *pleroo* is plural, present, passive. It means keep on being filled, and the word "filled" means to be under the control of. God doesn't want self-control to give way to drunkenness, but rather to Holy Spirit control.

TO BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT IS NOT YOU GETTING MORE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT THE HOLY SPIRIT GETTING MORE OF YOU.

## 3. Characteristics of Spirit-filled Believers

- **UPLIFTING** (in relationship with one another) v. 19
- **WORSHIPFUL** (in relationship with God) v. 19
- **THANKFUL** (to God, for all things) v. 20
- **HUMBLE** (in relationship with one another) v. 21

# Who's in Charge?

## (CONNECT questions for 5/19)

--Read Ephesians 5:15-21

1. Are you comfortable with the idea of running your own life, or do you prefer to have someone else make decisions for you?

2. Verse 18 speaks of being filled with the Spirit...What other ministries does the Holy Spirit do on behalf of believers, and can you differentiate between them?

3. When believers gather for corporate worship, who is their singing directed to? (v. 19) How is this significant?

4. Why are the believers instructed in v. 20 to give thanks for all things? (cp. Rom. 8:28)

5. Wives are instructed in v. 22 to be subject to their husbands, but v. 21 directs the believers to be subject to one another. Can two people both be subject to each other? Doesn't someone have to take charge and be the "boss"? How should this play out in our lives?