

FULL

Tomorrow we celebrate the Day of Pentecost. A time when God sent His Spirit and filled all who were present (Acts 2:8). I've often been approached and asked, "Pastor, can I be filled with the Holy Spirit more than once?" The word of God tells us that we ought to be "being filled" constantly and continually (Ephesians 5:18). Hence, being filled with the Holy Spirit is not meant to be a once-for-all experience. It should be a way of life! The question you should ask yourself is... "Do I have the Holy Spirit or does the Holy Spirit have me? When you are "being filled" continually, you will become FULL of the Holy Spirit and He will have complete control of your life. Being filled with the Spirit means being absolutely saturated with and under the control of the Holy Spirit. As a result your conduct changes. Not only do you receive supernatural power when you are filled with the Spirit, but your personality begins to take on a new quality. As you continue to walk under the control and power of the Holy Spirit, the fruit of the Spirit becomes increasingly more obvious in your life.

The Word of God has little meaning to you apart from the illumination given by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, you must be mindful of keeping the balance between the Spirit of God and the Word of God. When the emphasis on the ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God is in proper balance, the result is a Spirit-filled life of great power and great fruitfulness. As you continue then to allow the Holy Spirit to control and empower you, and as you meditate upon the Word of God, your life will produce more and more fruit. Fruit that reflects the beauty of Christ; fruit that confirms the Lord is actually living His life in and through you!

Being absolutely saturated with the Holy Spirit will result in you living the super-abundant and overflowing life Jesus came to secure. The key is to remain FULL! In John 7:37:38 the Lord extended this invitation, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." John adds, "By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive" (verse 39). If you come to Christ to drink - to be filled and be satisfied - then you receive living water! That powerful stream of life is always flowing, and it will refresh anyone who chooses to drink of its divine substance. However, a stream needs to be replenished, and where it originates is where it gets refilled. This principle applies to you and me! We need to be refilled from the very source that endlessly releases pure, cool "living" water. All we need to do is remain FULL! No one can live long without fresh water; equally we cannot sustain the abundant life without continually being filled with the Holy Spirit! The Lord's invitation still stands.... "Come to Me all who are thirsty, and I will fill you to overflowing."

"You are a fountain springing up in a garden, a well of living waters and flowing streams (Song of Solomon 4:15)."