

Living Worthy of My Calling, Pt. 18
“Evidences and Joys of the Spirit-filled Life”

Ephesians 5:18-21

**(1) Only the truth of the gospel
built into the soul makes this possible!**

*“giving thanks always for all things
to God the Father
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”*

(2) Only living in communion with Christ makes this possible!

- a heart “opened” to heaven – seeing the Goodness of God
- increasingly characteristic of my life as I live in communion with Christ

(3) I learn to see His good and loving hand in all things

- 1- belief in the triumph of His grace in me (Phil 1:6)
- 2- belief in His great, all-controlling love for me (Rom. 8:28)
- 3- belief in His loving discipline (Heb. 12)

4. A Heart of Submission toward One Another!

*“submitting to one another
in the fear of God.”*

(1) We are called to be servants to one another

- “submit” Gk: “line up under”

(2) Our submission to Christ enables this true submission to one another

- “in the fear of God” some versions: “in the fear of Christ”
- a reverential submission to Christ makes service to my brothers a delight
- this helps us to rightly understand the teaching on submission which follows

Four evidences of the Spirit-filled life:

*“And do not be drunk with wine
...but be filled with the Spirit,*

1. A Deep Enjoyment in the Fellowship of the Saints!

(1) The “True Society” in view here!

*“speaking to one another in psalms
and hymns and spiritual songs”*

- the true community which God has established in Christ
- Intended comparison/contrast with the “fellowship” of the old life
- Worship, or more broadly, fellowship in view? Both!

(2) A new substance in our conversation!

-1- The old: “foolish talking, coarse jesting”

- jokes, stories, the latest gossip
- centering in fleshly things – empty things, trivial things

-2- The new: “psalms and hymns and spiritual songs”

- centering in spiritual things – centering in Christ
- things meaningful and lasting

(3) A “Reveling” !

- in Christ
- in God’s blessings, His goodness, His ways
- in one another

2. A Joy in Personal Communion with the Lord!

melody

*“singing and making
in your heart to the Lord”*

(1) Rejoicing in His grace and love!

(2) Guarding, cultivating this communion moment by moment

- Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God
- Do not quench the Spirit

Further Application

3. A Heart of Thankfulness and Gratitude toward God