

# THE POWER OF PRESBYTERIANISM

*Ephesians 5:18, 21*

I. Christward *laypersons submit* by the Spirit's power.

II. Christward *leaders shepherd* by the Spirit's power.

## QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What does Paul contrast being filled with the Spirit with in v. 18? Why?
2. According to the three participles in vv. 19-21, what does the filling of the Spirit result in?
3. When Paul speaks of us "submitting to one another" in v. 21 does he mean that we are to submit to anyone and everyone? How do his examples in the following verses help us to understand the nature of this submission?
4. Though our text doesn't say anything about submission to church leadership, why is it proper and fitting to apply it in that way? Or is it?
5. Does this call to Spirit-filled submission only apply to those under authority or also to those in authority? What does it teach us about the calling of church leaders?
6. What does it mean to reverence Christ? Why is that a necessary frame of heart for both leading and submitting?
7. How are we to seek to be constantly filled with the Spirit? What does this actually look like in practical, everyday life?

## QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. How has my thinking and feeling toward authority and submission been shaped by the culture? What scares me about authority and submission in any sphere?
2. What does my leadership in spheres where I'm in authority and my submission in spheres where I'm under authority say about my reverence toward Christ?
3. Am I seeking after continual infillings of the Spirit? Toward this end, is my life characterized by praying fervently, putting sin to death, and prizing the Scriptures?