

**I. Be Wise - Eph. 5:15-17**

1. A new contrast between wisdom and folly (**verse 15**)
    - A. Live as wise, not unwise
    - B. Be careful how you live - carefully
  2. Compare walking in wisdom in Proverbs and specifically in chapter 1
    - A. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of such wisdom
    - Rea B. Discuss - how important is wisdom in our daily walk?
  3. How to walk wisely - take advantage of every opportunity (**verse 16**)
    - A. The KJV "redeeming the time" is a proper translation
    - B. Meaning, buy back the time - purchase it
    - C. Why? - because the days are evil
      - the fall of man has changed everything
      - Rea -yeah, but hasn't everyone always said that in every age? - discuss
      - Rea -buying back time is a wise thing to do
  4. Contrast at **verse 17** between foolish and understanding
    - A. Not just understanding anything, but understanding what the will of the Lord is
    - Rea B. A wise person understands God's will
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Not everything is bad and good, there is also wise and foolish
    - contrast "right" and "wrong" with wise/ foolish
  2. Why live "carefully?"
  3. What is "living carefully?"
  4. So,... a good Christian is a wise one?

**II. Be Filled - Eph. 5:18**

1. Be drunk on the Spirit
    - don't be drunk on wine
    - Rea -does that include Spring Break, Fraternity/ Sorority parties, Mardi Gras?
  2. Alcohol leads to debauchery
    - wastefulness
    - Rea -discuss what is "debauchery?"
  3. By contrast be full of the Spirit
    - Rea -a continual experience, not just on Sundays
    - Rea -be cooperative with the Holy Spirit
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Compare the effects of alcohol with the effects of Holy Spirit
  2. Verse 17 - be understanding
    - Verse 18 - be filled
    - Verse 19 - be filled with praise
  3. Wine leads to "debauchery" - what does Holy Spirit lead to?

**III. Be Genuine - Eph. 5:19-21**

1. Speaking in songs - from the Spirit (**verse 19**)
2. What type of songs?

- psalms
- hymns
- songs from the Spirit
- make music - from the heart
- Rea -heartfelt music
- Rea -thanksgiving comes out in praise music??
- 3. From the Spirit
  - plenty of room for all types of music
- Rea 4. Where? - “in the heart”
  - what if someone is not a good singer?
- 5. Giving thanks (**verse 20**)
  - not a grumbling spirit but a thankful one
  - not complaining
  - A. Thanks for everything
  - B. Thanks always
  - C. Thanks in Jesus’ name
- Rea 6. I think the spirit of the heart is the prime thing - are you a complainer, or are you a “thanker?”
- 7. Submit to one another (**verse 21**)
  - subordination to others who are worthy of respect
  - civil leaders, parents, etc
  - submitting is not a natural thing - it takes the Holy Spirit
- Rea 8. A different take:
  - A. First, it does not say the person we submit must be “worthy” of respect
  - B. Second, the way we submit is out of reverence for Christ
  - C. Therefore, as a service to God, we submit to one another
  - D. Discuss - is this “wise?” - won’t others take advantage of you?
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
  1. Define a Spirit-filled believer based on these verses
  2. Discuss why we are not always “Spirit-filled”
  3. Worship wars tells a lot about the “warriors”
  4. A wise, Spirit-filled believer will walk in these ways... - define what such a person would look like based on the verses in this lesson