

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**EPHESIANS 6*****Ephesians 6***

Ephesians 6 cannot be understood out of the context of when the Apostle Paul's instruction began in Ephesians 5:15 and the focal point of the passage, which is 5:18. In v.18, Paul commands believers to **be filled**, which is synonymous with commanding them to **be controlled by God's Holy Spirit**. This is an order, not a suggestion. The believer simply cannot obey God as a way of life without the enabling and empowerment of the Holy Spirit of God that lives in the life of each and every follower of Jesus. No exceptions. Notice the detailed outline Paul gives.

The Command: Be continually filled with the Spirit. The command is couched in the present tense, imperative mode. That is, Paul says you need to be continuously controlled by the Holy Spirit as a way of life. The present tense is depicted in grammar most often by a *straight, unbroken line* (____) or by a series of *continuous dots*, called the *iterative present* (.....). The goal is the unbroken filling/control, but in reality, none of us are continuously filled/controlled by God's Spirit. The dots need to be as close together as possible! Being filled/controlled by the Spirit produces in us the following effects that begin in 5:19 and continue through 6:20.

Christ is our life! The filling/control of the Holy Spirit affects every area of our lives, beginning with each of us as individuals to our various roles in this world and the unseen spiritual world.

Ephesians 5:19 **our personal worship**

Ephesians 5: 20 **our attitude of gratitude**

Ephesians 5:21-33 **our roles in life**. Males and females are equal in essence but differ in role assignment. Being filled/controlled with the Holy Spirit affects our relationship with our spouse.

Ephesians 6:1-4 **our roles as parents and the role of children**

Ephesians 6:5-9 **our roles in the workplace** and how we, as **employees** and **employers** who are believers, are to view our role and understand that God enables us to be faithful witnesses in whatever our position in life.

Ephesians 6:10-20 **our roles and positions in Christ, in the heavenlies**. As we are filled/controlled by the Holy Spirit, **we are enabled and empowered to overcome the enemies of our soul. We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us and gave Himself for us.**

Prayer and Action Steps

Father in heaven, I confess that I need to be filled/controlled by Your Holy Spirit that lives in my innermost being. Please bring to my mind any areas in my life that are not under Your control. I now surrender those to You. Enable me to live a consistent life of obedience.