

Heaven In The Home – Ephesians 5:18-33

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Introduction

Paul wrote that the Spirit's fullness is needed in the home. If our homes are to be a heaven on earth, then we must be controlled by the Holy Spirit. But how can a person tell whether or not he is filled with the Spirit? Paul stated that there are three evidences of the fullness of the Spirit in the life of the believer: he is *joyful* (Ephesians 5:19), *thankful* (Ephesians 5:20), and *submissive* (Ephesians 5:21–33).

I. Joyful (5:18-19)

- a. Contrast Drunkenness & Being Filled With Spirit
 - i. Christian joy could be compared to those who got drunk. Wait, how? (See PPT)

II. Thankful (5:20)

- a. How does a grateful heart promote harmony in the home?

III. Submissive (5:21-33)

- a. Wives, Submit Yourselves (v22-24)
 - i. Paul gives two reasons for this command: The lordship of Christ (5:22) and the headship of the man in Christ (5:23). Headship remember is not dictatorship. "Each for the other, both for the Lord."
- b. Husbands, Love Your Wives (v25-33)
 - i. This is set at the highest standard – "even as Christ also loved the church." Paul also sets the Christian home to the highest level of relationships – Christ and the church.
 1. If husbands love their wives, the way Jesus loved the church they will love them *sacrificially* (5:25; 1 Corinthians 13:5).
 2. It will be a love that *sanctifies* (5:26-27). Sanctify means "to set apart." Husbands help their wives become more like Christ.
 3. Finally, his love for her is *satisfying* (5:28-30). As he loves her, he is nourishing her. Just as love is the circulatory system of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:16), so love is the nourishment of the home.