

BE FILLED

*"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-- the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."*

John 14:16-17 (NIV)

❖ 3 Key Connections God Left for Us:

1. We are connected to the FAMILY of God through the CHURCH.

*Christ is the head of the church, which is his body. He is the first of all who will rise from the dead, so he is first in everything.*

Colossians 1:18 (NLT)

2. We are connected to the MIND of God through the BIBLE.

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.*

2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)

3. We are connected to the POWER of God through His SPIRIT.

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.*

2 Corinthians 3:17 (NIV)

❖ Three Types of People (Dr. Bill Bright):

1. The NATURAL Person:

*But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

1 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

➤ Key Truth: The Natural Person asks daily, "WHAT do I WANT?"

2. The SPIRITUAL Person:

*For, "Who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.*

1 Corinthians 2:16 (NIV)

➤ Key Truth: The Spiritual Person asks daily, "Lord, WHAT do YOU want?"

3. The CARNAL Person:

*Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly--mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly...*

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (NIV)

➤ Key Truth: The Carnal Person asks daily, "WHAT should I DO?"

❖ Steps to the Spirit-Filled Life:

*"I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly."*

John 10:10b (NASB)

1. ACCEPT that God loves you and wants to FILL you with His Spirit.

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."*

Matthew 5:6 (NIV)

2. BELIEVE that God has given you His Spirit when you said YES to Jesus.

*On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."*

John 7:37-38 (NIV)

3. CONFESS any un-confessed sin and ask God to forgive you and cleanse you.

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

1 John 1:9 (NIV)

4. DELIVER every area of your life back to God.

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

❖ Closing Truth: God promises to FILL us with His Spirit if we ASK by FAITH.

*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.*

1 John 5:14-15 (NIV)