

Christians are to be obedient to their employers as if they were serving Christ (Vs 5-7) In each of these verses we see we serve Christ! I would rather be a “company man” for Christ than a “dead weight” for my “rights.”

(Vs 6) “Not with eyeservice as menpleasers” I worked with some guys who had a sense when the boss was coming and THEN they would work hard. Such ought never to be the case with a Christian

(Vs 8) We as Christians work hard because we realize it is God that will reward us, not our boss.... He may use our boss, but we serve God! I believe God will bless a company because a Christian is there, *(I.e Joseph in Egypt)* He will take care of His people, and we must work hard trusting Him.

(Vs 9) Are you in charge of people at work? This verse is for the manager or boss. Never forget God is over you and He sees the way we treat others in our care.

Saturday/Sunday (Ephesians 6:10-24) * E.M. Bounds “Power through prayer”

The description of the Christian soldier given by Paul in the sixth chapter of the Epistle to the Ephesians, is compact and comprehensive. He is depicted as being ever in the conflict, which has many fluctuating seasons — seasons of prosperity and adversity, light and darkness, victory and defeat. He is to pray at all seasons, and with all prayer, this to be added to the armour in which he is to fare forth to battle. At all times, he is to have the full panoply of prayer. The Christian soldier, if he fight to win, must pray much. By this means, only, is he enabled to defeat his inveterate enemy, the devil, together with the Evil One’s manifold emissaries. “Praying always, with all prayer,” is the Divine direction given him. This covers all seasons, and embraces all manner of praying.

Christian soldiers, fighting the good fight of faith, have access to a place of retreat, to which they continually repair for prayer. “Praying always, with all prayer,” is a clear statement of the imperative need of much praying, and of many kinds of praying, by him who, fighting the good fight of faith, would win out, in the end, over all his foes.

Daily Devotions

Ephesians – Week 5

Monday: (Ephesians 5:18)

An “epistle” is a “letter” written to a particular church/group or person. It is helpful to read it remembering it is a letter and should be understood as a whole. This means many books of the bible “build up” to a point.

This letter has walked us through the eternal purpose of God (Chap 1) to His purchase of us (Chap 2) to the forming of His church (Chap 3) to the function of the church in believers lives (Chap 4) in Chap 5 we see the source of our new walk Vs 18!

(Vs 18) This is the command for every believer. It is the command to be pure and submissive to the workings of God’s Spirit in our lives. You see the new life is NOT “like” God’s nature it “IS” God’s nature through His Spirit.

To be filled means to be controlled by the Spirit. Who is in charge of your life? Every Christian is either “following” or actively “resisting” the Spirit of God.

The following verses are ONLY applicable for Spirit-filled Christians. What do you need to “do”, “get rid of” “or” stop to let God have His way.

Many Christians are waiting for something to persuade them to submit to God, revival is when you willingly of your own desires chose to follow God.

Tuesday: (Ephesians 5:19-20)

When people think of being “filled with the Spirit” they often think of crazy people wailing and speaking in tongues. This is nonsense and completely unbiblical.

(Vs 19-20) In these verses we see “the inner life “ of a spirit filled believer. A spirit filled believer is marked by a joyful heart, a thankful heart and I believe; marked by “gracious words.”

When Jesus proclaimed Himself to be the Spirit -filled Messiah in Luke 4:16-22, the distinguishing trait people observed were His “gracious words” (See Eph 4:29-32)

This teaches us an important point; “The outside is a product of the inside and only the Spirit can change the inside”

Why do we have problems with people? =Because we have problems with our heart. The Spirit of God will condition and create a gracious spirit, which God can work in and through.

Let us all deal with our hearts!

Wednesday: (Ephesians 5:21-33)

These verses are absolutely foreign to unbelievers; the life described in these verses can only be lived “through the Spirit” (submitting unto the Spirit)

(Vs 21) Can you imagine if every church lived in obedience to this verse! There is one thing that stops it: p-r-i-d-e.

(Vs 22-24) Here we see the beginning of instructions for a “spirit-led home” We see the order of authority in the home is that the husband lead and the wife follow. Space does not permit a full discussion but suffice it to say this does not mean the husband is to be a tyrant. We must keep it in context and look at the next commandment.

(Vs 25-33) Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church. Some thinking on this will show you the depth of love we should have for our wives.

Marriage is God’s institution and is only successful God’s way. For a family or marriage to “work” God must be first!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Think of your home, who or what is first? Life is busy, but if you do not plant God, the bible, church in the center first these things will get crowded out.

You see these things add to your home, they do not “take away.” They give peace, security, provision and help to your home. Do not neglect God to have a home.

Thursday: (Ephesians 6:1-4)

Chapter and verses were added to the Bible for ease of reading, sometimes the thought ends, sometimes it continues. Here it continues on with the spirit-filled family.

(Vs 1-3) Here we see children should be “filled with the Spirit” and obey their parents. This is the first commandment with a promise attached to it (Vs 3)

(Vs 4) We fathers need to be “spirit-filled” so we are not “provoking our children to wrath” On the contrary we have the responsibility of their spiritual instruction. We as fathers need to lead our family spiritually by bringing them to church, setting the example and teaching the family.

It has been my experience that wives are quicker to want spiritual instruction for their family. If this is the way it is for you, ladies remember Eph 4:21-24. It is not your job to “straighten your husband out” Prayer and a godly example will help much.

Men, take the initiative in your families. We have a responsibility before God for so much!

Friday: (Eph 6:5-9)

(Vs 5-8) The word “servants” is “employee” to us. A Christian is to be different in so many ways even at work.

No doubt your place of employment has a circle of “disgruntles” people who are never happy, they seem to find each other it seems

