

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Ephesians 5:18-24

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Ephesians 5:18-24.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine,
for that is dissipation,
but be filled with the Spirit,
¹⁹speaking to one another in psalms
and hymns
and spiritual songs,
singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;
²⁰always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God,
even the Father;
²¹and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.
²²Wives, be subject to your own husbands,
as to the Lord.
²³For the husband is the head of the wife,
as Christ also is the head of the church,
He Himself being the Savior of the body.
²⁴But as the church is subject to Christ,
so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

1. To understand the context of this passage, read the entire letter to the Ephesians. Then reread chapter 5. Where does this passage fit within the book?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

2. Verse 18 contains the third “not...but” phrase Paul has used since verse 15. What is it? What are the other two? Can you find any other examples in 5:1 through 6:9? What is Paul addressing in this section?
3. Drunkenness is by what means in verse 18? What is Paul’s reason to forbid it? Using a study Bible, concordance, and/or dictionary, how would you define “dissipation?”
4. By what means does Paul want the Ephesians to be filled in 5:18b? Why? (Hint: see 3:19)
5. The words “be filled” are a present tense passive imperative. In other words, Paul is commanding the Ephesian believers to continually seek the Spirit’s filling of them. Why might Paul phrase this command in this way?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

❖ Day 2

Read Ephesians 5:18-24 again.

6. What five verbs are listed in verses 19-21? How are these connected to being filled with the Spirit in verse 18?
7. Who are we to speak to according to verse 19? In what way? Who are we to sing and make melody to? In what way? How are these two actions related? What is required to do them?
8. Who are we to always be giving thanks to according to verse 20? For what? In what way? What is required to do this?
9. What does it mean to give thanks “in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ?”
10. Who are we to subject ourselves to according to verse 21? In what way? What is required to do this?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

11. What does it mean to be subject to one another “in the fear of Christ?”

12. Who are wives, specifically, supposed to practice submission to according to verse 22? In what way? What is required to do this?

13. What does it mean for a wife to be subject to her husband (cf. 5:33, 1 Peter 3:1-6)?

❖ Day 3

Read Ephesians 5:18-24 again.

14. Who does Paul call on to subject the wife to her husband? Who does Paul not call on to subject the wife to her husband?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

15. List some ways of how women should submit themselves to the Lord. What does Paul say to apply this to?

16. What grounds does Paul give for why wives should submit themselves to their husbands' authority in verse 23?

17. What does Paul describe Christ as being at the end of verse 23? How does this connect to Him as the head of the church? What does this say about the headship of the husband over his wife? What does it say about the submission of the wife under her husband?

18. To what standard does Paul expect wives to subject themselves to their husbands, according to verse 24a? To what extent does Paul expect this to apply in 24b?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

19. Taking these verses together, who does Paul say wives should submit themselves to (1) directly and (2) ultimately? What compels wives to do this? What motivates wives to do this? What enables wives to do this?

20. How would you summarize this passage in 21 words or less?

In preparation for Sunday, pray for the Holy Spirit's work in your life as you seek to apply this passage in your relationships with others and the Lord Jesus. Pray that God would open your eyes to see the truth of His Word and its implications for your life in how you can live in and for Christ. Pray that our church body would be marked by these things as we walk alongside one another.