



**THIS AUGUST**

**FILLED**

**HOW TO  
ENCOUNTER  
AND EXPERIENCE  
THE TRUE  
POWER OF GOD**



# LIFEGROUPS

Series: Filled

Bible Focus: Ephesians 5:18-21

Date: August 20 & 21, 2016

—[ LET'S TALK ]—

- How would you summarize the highs and lows of this past week?

—[ CHOOSE 1 SIDE ]—

—[ LET'S WARM UP ]—

- What does it take to live victoriously? (To allow the Holy Spirit to control our lives)
- What does it mean to have a fully committed heart to God?

—[ LET'S WARM UP ]—

- When does self-sufficiency become a hindrance to faith in God?
- What prevents us from allowing the Holy Spirit to saturate and dominate our lives?

—[ LET'S DIG ]—

- Read Luke 9:23-26 and discuss total commitment to God.
1. What does it mean to take up one's cross daily?
  2. What are some ways that a person can lose their life in order to save it?
  3. How are sacrifice and commitment related? Can one exist without the other?
  4. How can you show your commitment to God and that you are not ashamed of Christ?

—[ LET'S DIG ]—

- Read John 12:20-26, Romans 6:1-11, and discuss dying to one's self.
1. What happens to a seed if it is planted? Why did Jesus reference this?
  2. How does the seed metaphor impact the meaning of Jesus' words in Jn 12:26?
  3. Why must we die to ourselves before we can truly receive the Holy Spirit?
  4. What is the connection between dying to ourselves and discipleship?

—[ LET'S ACT ]—

- A spiritual mentor is a great way to grow deeper with God's Holy Spirit. Ask about finding one through Wooddale's 1:1 Mentorship program: [spiritual.mentoring@wooddale.org](mailto:spiritual.mentoring@wooddale.org). If you have a mentor, tell someone in your life about how that relationship has impacted your faith!

—[ **SERMON REVIEW** ]—

- Scriptures referenced: [Jos 8:31] - [2 Chr 16:9] - [Isa 26:3] - [Rom 6:6-11; 8:13; 12:1] - [Gal 2:20; 5:1-26] - [Col 2:9, 3:11] - [2 Tim 2:21]
- When Paul talks about the “flesh,” he is referring to our self-life: Self-centeredness, Self-righteousness, Self-will, Self-gratification.
- There’s a battle between our self-life and the Christ-life that is in us.
- The self-life is a lot like a climbing vine on a house. You cannot truly control it. The more you try, the more it seems to dominate. Likewise, you cannot overcome yourself by yourself! You have to deal with the root of the problem, but it is hard to put something to death that you like.
- We repent of the result but we still like the roots. In other words, if there were no consequences we’d probably continue. As long as that is the underlying issue, we’re just trimming the leaves.
- We must die to our self if we are ever to know the victorious presence of Christ in our lives.
- A fully committed heart to God means to have a heart put at peace. A heart at peace is a heart fully surrendered to Jesus. A heart fully surrendered to Jesus is a heart ready for His use.
- After Joshua and the people defeated the city of Ai, God instructs him to set up an altar of “whole stones” to sacrifice on. Just as God asked Joshua for whole stones—not cut stones or half—so too God wants commitment from your whole life.

—[ **NOTES** ]—

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