

Jesus' Personal Prescription for Dealing with Hypocrisy in Our Lives

1. Begin Within

³⁹He also told them this parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher. ⁴¹"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴²How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Luke 6:39-42 NIV

2. Start with the Heart

⁴³No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. ⁴⁴Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from briars. ⁴⁵The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

Luke 6:43-45 NIV

3. Weigh the Consequences

⁴⁶"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. ⁴⁸He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete."

Luke 6:46-49 NIV

How to Overcome Hypocrisy in Your Heart

¹⁵Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷**Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.** ¹⁸**Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.** ¹⁹**Speak** to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. **Sing and make music** in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰always **giving thanks** to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹**Submit** to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:15-21 NIV

- The Context = Ephesians 5:1-14
- The Command to be “Spirit-Filled”
- The Command = “Be Filled”
 - Meaning Of “Filled” =
 - The Plural Form =
 - The Passive Voice =
 - The Present Tense =
- Four Evidences (“Proof”) Of Being Filled
 1. Your _____ will reveal it.
 2. Your _____ will reveal it.
 3. Your _____ will reveal it.
 4. Your _____ will reveal it.

An Important Distinction – Baptism ≠ Filling

- The *Baptism* of the Spirit = “The non-experiential, unrepeated work of the Holy Spirit at regeneration whereby we are placed into the Body of Christ.” F.F. Bruce (Acts 2, 1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 8:9)
- The *Filling* of the Spirit = “The unobstructed or unhindered control or influence of the Spirit upon the believer’s life.” C. Ryrie (Acts 2:4, 4:8, 4:31, 6:3, 6:5, 6:55, 9:17, 11:24, 13:9, 13:52)

<u>Baptism</u>	<u>Filling</u>
Occurs Only Once In Each Believer’s Life	Is A Repeated Experience
Never Happened Before Day Of Pentecost	Occurred In The O.T.
True Of All Believers	Not Necessarily Experienced By All
Cannot Be Undone	Can Be Lost
Results In A Position	Results In Power
Occurs When We Believe In Christ	Occurs Throughout The Christian Life
No Prerequisite (except faith in Christ)	Depends On Yieldedness

Principles to Remember

1. The issue is not getting **more** of the Holy Spirit; it's Him getting **more** of you.
2. We are never told to seek an experience or gift as evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit.
3. The conditions for being filled are:
 - a. Obedience – dedication – yieldedness to God and His Word. Romans 12:1-2, Colossians 3:16-17
 - b. Undefeated life (dealing with known sin) – Ephesians 4:30-31
 - c. Dependent life – John 15, Galatians 5:16
4. The key perspective: It is relationship, not mechanical.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit? How often can this happen?
2. How does one know if they are “filled” with the Spirit?
3. How does being filled with the Spirit address the issue of hypocrisy in your private world?
4. What specific steps do you need to take to be filled with the Spirit and live an authentic life?

Resource: *Baptism and Fullness* by John Stott