



Saint James AME Church  
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Ronald L. Slaughter, Senior Pastor

Bible Study Outline

11:00 AM

Rev. Jacqueline Reeves, Facilitator

April 12, 2017

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**Scripture:** Ephesians 5:1-18

**Introduction:** We are in the season of Pentecost and we should be spiritually intoxicated and influenced with the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Ephesians is a letter of encouragement. Paul is encouraging the people to live godly lives. Just as children imitate their parents, we should imitate Christ. In Ephesians 5:18, a contrast is made between the person who is under the influence of alcohol and the person who is under the controlling influence of the Holy Spirit. We as Christians are not to be drunk with the wine that comes from any earthly vineyard but with the new wine of the kingdom who is the True Vine (John 15:1). There is purpose in setting these two commands in contrast. It was a pagan belief that God dwelt in the blood of the grapes, so that in drinking wine from the earthly vine, man thought he was drinking God into himself. Drunkenness was therefore held to be a sacrament in which a man was suppose to be under the control of the god who filled him.

**Points To Consider:**

1. A drunkard is possessed by a sense of well-being/In contrast, what about the Christian?  
(Acts 2:13-15)
2. A drunkard is recognized by his face/What should we see on a Christian's face?  
Moses (Exodus 34:29) ; Stephen (Acts 6:15); Jesus (Luke 9:29).
3. The Drunkard has a characteristic aroma about him /The Christian has the aroma of Jesus Christ, what does that mean? (Eph. 5:2)
4. A drunkard can be detected by the way he walks/ In contrast, how does a Christian walk? What is your walk with God like? (Eph. 5:15).
5. A drunkard is betrayed by the way he speaks./Christians speak the Word, (John 3:11, John 8:38); (Acts 4:20).
6. A drunkard is known by the company he keeps./The Christian has fellowship (Acts 2:4, Acts 4:23).

**Summary:**

A person becomes a drunkard by drinking and drinking and drinking and allowing the drink to control the person. We become spiritually intoxicated by becoming spirit filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit. Our drinking involves a real thirst for God, (Isaiah 44:3), a great Capacity for God (Psalm 81:10), and a simple faith (Luke 11:13)

**Notes:**

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**Remember:** "It cost something to follow Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Are you willing to pay the price?"