

The Weeping Spirit

Ephesians 4:30

Acts 2:38

...Where is that gift located?

1 Corinthians 3:16

Ephesians 4:26-5:4

...This section of scripture is full of commands and imperatives.

"Do not grieve the Holy Spirit" (...a command)

...We can only grieve those who love us or are close to us.

...Grief - deep emotional sorrow, associated with loss of misfortune.

...Commands imply choices and choices have consequences.

"Sin causes loss and loss causes grief"

What is the loss?

Answer: Fellowship with God

...sin puts up a barrier between us and God.

...sin, rebellion, and disobedience ties God's hands.

John 14:6, 15:26, and John 16:7

...these verses speak to another helper,
that God the Father will send - the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 4:30

Ephesians 4:29

How do we keep from grieving the Spirit of God?

When you sin with your words, you will cut off the supernatural power of God.
You are forfeiting the power of the Holy Spirit.

We need to replace the sinful actions identified in Ephesians 4:31 (³¹ *Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.*) with the righteous actions identified in Ephesians 4:32 (³² *Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.*)

There is only one way to replace the righteous actions for the sinful actions identified above...in Ephesians 5:18 it commands...

¹⁸ *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,*

How exactly are we filled with the Spirit?

...acknowledge it, confess it, and let go of it.

1. **Come to God with empty hands.** Let go of self, sin, and the things of the world.
2. **Come with open hands.** Hands that are open to receive what God wants to give or do in our lives.
3. **Come with clutching hands.** Hands that are ready to clutch what God gives us through all the trials/challenges in our lives...grab a hold of God's hand and never let go - He won't let go of you, ever!