

Bay City Wesleyan Church  
April 8, 2018

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Sunday Morning 04-08-2018

Jesus promised, "You will bear fruit, lots of fruit, lasting fruit." John 15:5

Let's pray at 1:55 PM daily to see Jesus producing fruit in and through us.

<http://bible.com/events/388873>

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[Image]

Claiming the promise in 2018

<https://imageproxy-cdn.youversionapi.com/152x152/https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/mushroom-event-images-prod/5722009-1514675144006.jpg>

The Promise:

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

[Image]

There's one attitude that can vaccinate your marriage against most relationship diseases.

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WE NEED TO ADMIT OUR PROBLEM.

We want to make an organizational chart for every relationship we enter. And we either want our names in the box at the top of the chart. If that's not possible, we want our independence.

This drive to supervise and control others, along with its opposite, the drive to rebel and refuse to allow someone else to control us - these two drives deform our ideas about all our relationships, especially marriage.

Ephesians 5:18-21 NET

And do not get drunk with wine, which is debauchery, but be filled by the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music in your hearts to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for each other in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

<https://bible.com/bible/107/eph.5.18-21.NET>

Genesis 3:16 NET

To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your labor pains; with pain you will give birth to children. You will want to control your husband, but he will dominate you."

<https://bible.com/bible/107/gen.3.16.NET>

JESUS HAS A BETTER WAY.

His way brings a blessing instead of a curse. His plan for your relationships fills you with honesty in the place of denial.

Ephesians 5:18-33 NET

And do not get drunk with wine, which is debauchery, but be filled by the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music in your hearts to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for each other in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord, because the husband is the head of the wife as also Christ is the head of the church — he himself being the savior of the body. But as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her to sanctify her by cleansing her with the washing of the water by the word, so that he may present the church to himself as glorious — not having a stain or wrinkle, or any such blemish, but holy and blameless. In the same way husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one has ever hated his own body but he feeds it and takes care of it, just as Christ also does the church, for we are members of his body. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and will be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. This mystery is great — but I am actually speaking with reference to Christ and the church. Nevertheless, each one of you must also love his own wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

<https://bible.com/bible/107/eph.5.18-33>.NET

The passage starts with a command for all Jesus followers, “Be filled by the Spirit.” It’s followed by 5 results, “speaking, singing, making music, giving thanks, and submitting.” The first four appear easy to accept. Only the fifth one, “submitting to each other” catches our attention.

Sermon in a Sentence:

Husbands, the fullness of God in your life can be measured by the generosity of your love for your wife.