



**Bible Study**  
**Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

**The Spirit Filled Life**  
**Luke 1:67-70**

“A Lifestyle of Thanksgiving” is natural and normal for an individual filled with the Holy Spirit - **Ephesians 5:18-21**. Paul and Silas are evidence that the situation does not dilute the evidence of being Spirit-filled (**Acts 16:25**).

Paul contrasts being drunk with alcohol with being filled with the Spirit (**Ephesians 5:18**). Therefore, if we can understand what it means to be filled with alcohol, we can understand what it means to be filled with the Spirit. Alcohol disrupts the way our brain looks and works. Therefore, a person starts operating or living under the influence of alcohol. However, when we are filled with the Spirit (Word - **John 6:63**), we operate under the influence of the Word of God.

In our text, Zacharias and Elizabeth could not have children and were also both very old (**Luke 1:7**). They still loved God, as exemplified by their obedience to God (**Luke 1:6**). So, their circumstances and feelings of disgrace (**Luke 1:25**), did not determine whether they would obey God or not.

God determined to use this couple to bring into the world the one Isaiah prophesized about in **Isaiah 40:3**, John the Baptist. Elizabeth and Mary, the mother of Jesus, were cousins (**Luke 1:36, KJV**). Jesus and John the Baptist were about six months apart, with John being older (**Luke 1:39**).

John's father, Zacharias, couldn't believe that God was answering his prayer for a child. As a result, God muted him until after the child was born (**Luke 1:20**). After the child was born, there was a discussion about the child's name. The child's mother had already declared the boy's name, John. However, people wanted to name him after his father. However, Zacharias communicated that

his name was John. At that moment, he was able to speak and praise God ([Luke 1:63-64](#)). Then, we find out that he was filled with the Holy Spirit.

**First, he praised God ([Luke 1:68](#)).** The Spirit led Zacharias to bless or speak well of God. Speaking well of God is natural and normal when we are Spirit-filled. He eulogized God. He recognized the fact that God was worthy of it. Praising God in this text indicates praise and adoration on the part of the creature in recognition of the power and prerogatives of the Creator and the privileges enjoyed as the result of His gracious gifts.

**Second, he sees the activity of God in real-time ([Luke 1:68b](#)).** His praise was with connection. He spoke well of God because of what He has done to redeem His people. In Zacharias' case, he knew of God's plan to save the world. He knew God would use his son, John, to be the forerunner of Jesus. He also knew that Jesus was coming soon through his cousin, Mary. Before anything takes place, he gives God praise. When the Spirit leads us, we see the activity of God ([Isaiah 43:19, 21](#)).

**Third, he repeated God's promises ([Luke 1:70](#)).** Zacharias connected what God was currently doing to what God said He would do ([Jeremiah 23:5](#)). Although we stand in awe of what God is doing, we are not surprised that God is doing it - because God said He would. Can you connect what you see God doing to what God has said? When you see the activity of God right now, it reminds you of the Word of God filling you.

When we are Spirit-filled, there's evidence! "A Lifestyle of Thanksgiving" is natural and normal for an individual filled with the Holy Spirit.