

Wednesday Word of the Week

Fulfill

February 18, 2015

Origin: late Old English fullfyllan 'fill up, make full' (see full1, fill)

Definitions:

- Bring to completion or reality; achieve or realize (something desired, promised, or predicted)
- (fulfill oneself) Gain happiness or satisfaction by fully developing one's abilities or character
- *archaic* Complete (a period of time or piece of work)
- Carry out (a task, duty, or role) as required, pledged, or expected
- Satisfy or meet (a requirement or condition)

I want to break this word down the way I am hearing it for the purposes of this message ("full-fill"):

"Full" definitions:

- Containing or holding as much or as many as possible; having no empty space
- Having eaten or drunk to one's limits or satisfaction
- [PREDICATIVE] (full of) Completely engrossed with; unable to stop talking or thinking about
- [ATTRIBUTIVE] Not lacking or omitting anything; complete
- (Often used for emphasis) reaching the utmost limit; maximum

"Fill" definitions:

- Put someone or something into (a space or container) so that it is completely or almost completely full
- [NO OBJECT] (fill with) Become full of
- Become an overwhelming presence in
- Occupy or take up (a period of time)

To bring all those definitions together in one sentence means when we are filled to the full we are fulfilled.

We all were created for a purpose. We are all part of the whole; members of one body which is the Body of Jesus Christ. In order to come to the fullness of our purpose we must be filled. Filled with what?

We must be filled with knowledge of Jesus Christ which brings the filling of understanding. We must be filled with the Holy Spirit who brings us the knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ. We must be filled with God's love which is the incorporation of all the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Here is an important note. We can only be as full as there is room. Once we are being filled we must empty things out to make room for more filling. Why is this important?

It is important because it is a process. We become empty to be filled. The vessel starts out small. Once full there must be an expansion in the vessel so that it can carry more. This process will continue on and on with the emptying and filling happening simultaneously.

Another important factor is as we become full we are called to pour into other vessels (people) which is God filling them. Again, this is an ongoing process. How loving is our God to count us worthy enough to help His other children.

"Do not despise small beginnings My children. Do not believe the lies that you are not worthy enough to carry My glory. Does My word not say that you will be changed from glory to glory?"

This means You always carry amounts of My glory for you are My glory. Never lose sight of how much I love you and all My children. I will fill you to the full as much as you desire to be fulfilled."

Father God, fill me with everything You have for me. I give You permission, Holy Spirit, to search my heart of anything that needs to be cleansed and changed. Search me, Lord. Show me, Lord, that which needs to be changed in my life. Fill me with Your strength, Lord, as I surrender even more to You. Bring understanding to me of where You have called me. Help me, Lord, to be filled to the full and to fulfill everything You call me to do.

Bible Verses:

- **Ephesians 4:11-16** - And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head— Christ— 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.
- **Proverbs 9:10** - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
- **Matthew 5:6** - Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.
- **Acts 4:31** - And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.
- **Psalms 145:17-19** - 17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works. 18 The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth. 19 He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them.
- **2 Thessalonians 1:11-12** - Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, 12 that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- **2 Timothy 4:3-5** - For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
- **Psalms 36:7-9** - 7 How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. 8 They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. 9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.
- **Psalms 65:4** - Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple.
- **2 Corinthians 3:16-18** - Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Other source:

http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/fulfill

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