

# Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2025.08.17

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## Sermon recordings

Scan the QR code below with your phone's cam, or visit [oakgrovecofc.org/sermons](http://oakgrovecofc.org/sermons).

**Speaker-AM:** Robbie Moreland

**Title:** The Ethiopian Eunuch

**Recording:**



**Speaker-PM:** Kraig Benney

**Title:** Keys To a Successful Marriage

**Recording:**



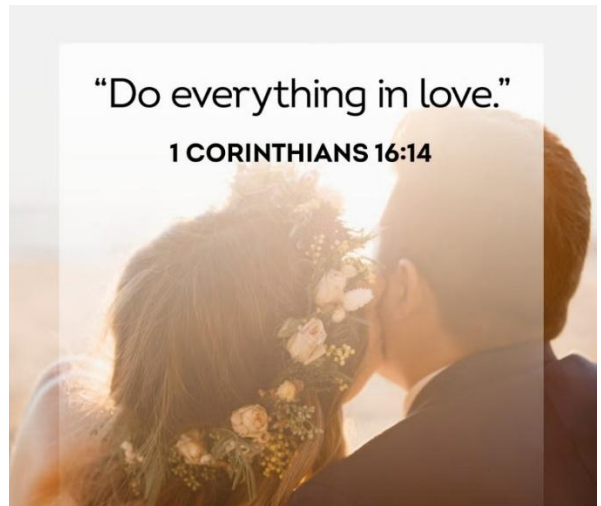
## Acts 8

Acts 8:26-40



"Do everything in love."

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14



### God's Will for Every Christian, 8/15/2025 By Josh Vinyard

**Ephesians 5:15** So then, be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise, **16** making the most of your time, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*. **18** And do not get drunk with wine, in which there is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, **19** speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord; **20** always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to *our* God and Father; **21** and subject yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.

Paul had just talked to the Ephesian Christians about being unified, how to walk in a newness of life, and about how to be lights in this world (Eph. 4:1-5:14). He continues speaking about what he wants to accomplish in each and every one of us in chapter 5. In verses 15 and 16, he warns us that the days are evil. He is telling us that the world is full of Satan's influence and that we need to be really careful about how we are walking.

He is telling us to watch every step that we take; that we should be looking around as we walk (hence "walking circumspectly" KJV). It goes without saying that if God is going to accomplish great things through us for His glory, we have to pay attention and not walk around with our heads in the sky and be oblivious to Satan's schemes (Eph. 6).

In this section, Paul writes of how we should "understand what the will of the Lord is." A lot of people make the will of God in their lives too personal, as if God has a specific plan just for them. He may have that but the Bible doesn't tell us how we can know it. In Ephesians, there seems to be a will that God has for everyone.

1. To be God's workmanship – "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." – Eph. 2:10. God wants good people doing good things.
2. To know the love of Christ – "to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God." – Eph. 3:19. Christians need to be filled up with the goodness of God. That will take some work on our part as we study His Word.
3. To be mature Christians in Christ – "until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man..." – Eph. 4:13
4. To be like Christ – "put on the new self, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth." – Eph. 4:24 (see also 5:1)

The point is that Ephesians itself tells us a few things that we can anchor down on and know for sure to be the will of God in each and every one of our lives.

The text here though points out another: Understand the will of the Lord.

#### How can we walk in Understanding?

1. Start with informational knowledge about the Bible. Read the Bible.
2. Take informational knowledge and make it experiential knowledge. Put what you have learned from the Bible into practice; exercise your knowledge in your personal life. Learn what the Bible says, go home, obey and do it. Hear and do (James 1:25).
3. Gain more knowledge. Take what you have learned from putting the Bible into practice and learn more.

In verse 18, there is an unusual contrast: Be not drunk with wine vs. be filled with the Spirit. These don't seem like two things that should be put in opposition to each other. Being drunk means that someone takes in an alcoholic substance and that substance changes you; it alters you. Alcohol changes the way you think, the way you walk (literally), the way you talk, and even affects your relationships with others. What Paul is telling us to do is pick up the word of God, understand the will of God, and do it in your lives. Now notice the contrast. If we are filled with the Spirit (by studying His word), and we do it, it will change the way we think (about Satan vs. God's will), the way we walk (doing spiritual things), the way we talk, and it will change our relationships. It will change our relationship with God and with others. God wants to help us accomplish this.