Ephesians 4:1-24 Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians 4:1-24.
- B. Topic: how to live in a Spirit-filled church.

II. Exhortations.

- A. Walk circumspectly being aware of what is around you.
- B. Make the most of every opportunity.
 - 1. God has allowed evil days because they are an opportunity.
 - 2. Evil allowed can turn hearts back to God.
- C. Do not be foolish, but understand God's will.
 - 1. God's will is to have open hearts that have discovered the secret of life—Christ in you.
 - 2. This is to be filled with the Spirit of God.
- V. Marks of being Spirit-filled.
 - A. Addressing each other with psalms and spiritual songs.
 - B. Expressing the truth of God to Him in new and various forms of music.
 - C. A rejoicing and grateful congregation.
- VI. The walk of faith.
 - A. The key is submission.
 - 1. This is not just a word for women.
 - 2. This is a Christian word applied to all Christians and Jesus Himself.
 - 3. The word means support.
 - B. Wives and husbands.
 - 1. The husband is the head of the home and requires support.

2. The wife is to back up the husband when he is right and lovingly correct him when he is wrong.

- 3. The husband is also to support his wife and he must develop her.
 - a. The husband must forgive his wife and take initiative with her.
 - b. The husband makes his wife radiant by his approval.
 - c. The husband is to sanctify his wife by finding a place for her.
 - d. The one who loves his wife benefits himself.
 - e. The wife leaves her parents to be joined to her husband.
- C. Parents and children.
 - 1. Parents are not to provoke their children to anger.
 - 2. Children are supposed to obey their parents as the Lord.
- D. Employers and employees.

Application questions:

1. Why has God allowed evil days? What should our response be?

2. What does the speaker do with what is traditionally translated "be subject" concerning the relationship between a husband and a wife? What is his reasoning?

3. What are some examples you have seen of a person or church living out the Spirit-filled life?