

## **The Empowering Presence**

### **Praying with Others for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

#### **The Power of testimony**

“They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.” Revelation 12:11

The telling of your one-on-one encounter with the Holy Spirit is powerful. Be prepared to share your personal experience of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Many are hungry and thirsty. This is a tremendous gift from God and we should never forget His great kindness in giving us this gift. We should always be prepared to share our personal Holy Spirit Story.

#### **The Power of the Word**

Do your homework. Know what the Bible teaches about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Be ready to share the basics about this amazing promise and gift from God. See Resources page 4.

#### **The Power of the Holy Spirit**

##### **1. First Things:**

- a. Remember this is all about connecting the person you are ministering to with the Holy Spirit. You must never pressure a person to receive prayer for the filling of the Spirit. Be kind, be gentle. You are treading on holy ground. Be natural and act normal. Do not act super-spiritual or weird. Be sensitive to their needs and preferences. When it is time to pray you may want to ask if you may gently lay hands on the person. (Acts 8:17)

##### **2. Confession and Repentance**

- a. In preparation for the filling of the Spirit it is important to first have the person invite the Holy Spirit to search their heart and bring to mind any unconfessed sins. This is a time to ask the Lord to ‘created in me a clean heart.’ It is a time of ‘cleansing the vessel’ prior to it being filled and ‘sweeping the house clean.’ I usually ask the person at this point to confess and renounce any occultic activity which they may have participated in earlier in their life.

##### **3. Recommitment**

- a. Following the prayer of confession invite the person to pray a prayer of fresh surrender and commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. Follow this with a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for His great mercy, love, and kindness. Depending on the individual, you may want to lead them through this time of prayer.

##### **4. Prayer for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

- a. Now comes that amazing moment. The house is swept clean. The Holy Spirit is just waiting for the invitation to come and fill the vessel. The Lord Jesus has

declared, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. . .if you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:9-13). One of the priestly roles of the Lord Jesus is to be the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit. The Father has made a promise and it is Jesus who ministers this reality to the children of God. Lead the person in prayer of faith, asking the Lord Jesus to baptize them in the Holy Spirit. Always pray in the name of Jesus. Jesus never gives a snake or a stone when we ask for this good gift. Again, keep the prayer simple and straight. Don’t overwhelm the person with a long and wordy prayer. Include in the prayer a specific request for the gift of speaking in tongues. Thank the lord for hearing your prayer and close with a declaration of trust in His promise.

## **5. The Gift of Speaking in Tongues**

- a. During the time you share your personal testimony and what the Word of God promises regarding the baptism in the Holy Spirit, it is good to point out that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are necessary tools for the work of the kingdom in our day (1 Corinthians 12-14), and that just as in the days of the early church, the gift of speaking in tongues often accompanies the filling of the Spirit. Prior to your time of prayer discuss the gift of speaking in tongues and ask the person if they would like Jesus to give them this gift. If they have said, yes, then include a special prayer for this gift. At this point, I often ask the person to think of their favorite picture of Jesus, and after asking Him for this special gift, to receive it in faith and then begin to use their vocal chords and speak to Jesus in this new language that He has given them. Tell them to speak out loud and express their love and thanks to Jesus. Pray out loud in tongues with them as they pray so that they hear another prayer language and realize that you do this too. I quietly keep telling them to speak to Jesus and to not be afraid. It is wonderful to see how willing the Lord is to give this precious gift to His children. Time after time He gives them this gracious gift to further equip them for proclaiming the Gospel. Take some time after your prayer session to answer any questions and encourage them to cherish the good gift the Father has given them.

### **The Empower Presence Praying with Others for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

Billy Graham put it this way: “They had no Bibles, no seminaries nor Bible schools. No radios or telephones. No printing presses. No churches. Nothing! However, they turned the world upside down in one generation. What did they have? They had an experience with the living Christ. They had the filling of the Holy Spirit.

John 16:7 – “But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away the Helper (Paracletos) shall not come to you, but if I go, I will send Him to you.”

Luke 11:11-13 – “Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? Or if he is asked for an egg, eh will nto give him a

scorpion, will he? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.”

Luke 24:49 – “An behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with the power from on high.”

Acts 1:4 – “And gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, which, He said, you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Acts 1:8 – “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

Matthew 3:11 – “As for me, I baptize you in water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not even fit to remove His sandals; He himself will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” (Mark 1:7 and 8; Luke 3:16; John 1:26-33)

Joel 2:28 and 29 – “And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions, even upon the menservants and maidservants in those days, I will pour out My Spirit.”

### **Old Testament action of the Holy Spirit upon Moses, Judges, the prophets, kings, craftsmen, and musicians.**

Acts 2:1-4 – “When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a might wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

Vs. 14-35 - Peter preaches the Gospel.  
Vs. 37 -Brethren, what shall we do?  
Vs. 38 -Repent, be baptized, receive the Holy Spirit  
Vs. 29 -The promise is for you!!! 3000 souls added that day.!

Acts 2:1-41 -Jerusalem and Judea  
Acts 8:5-18 -Samaria  
Acts 10 -Cornelius (Gentiles)  
Acts 19:1-6 -Ephesus  
Acts 2:39 -“The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off.”

## New Testament terms for receiving the Holy Spirit

- 1. (being sent) what the Father promised**
  - a. Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 2:33
- 2. The gift of God**
  - a. Acts 8:20, 11:17
- 3. Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit**
  - a. Acts 2:38
- 4. Receiving the Holy Spirit**
  - a. Acts 8:17, 19, 10:47, 19:2, (cf., John 7:39, 14:17, 20:22, 1 Cor. 2:12; Gal. 3:2; Romans 8:15.
- 5. Being filled with the Holy Spirit**
  - a. Acts 2:4, 9:17 (note: this term is also used for special “fillings” subsequent to the initial “filling”: Acts 4:8, 4:31, 7:55, 13:9, Eph. 5:18; Luke 1:41, 67)
- 6. Being clothed with power**
  - a. Luke 24:49 (Acts 1:8 similar)
- 7. The Holy Spirit comes on**
  - a. Acts 19:6 (Luke 2:27)
- 8. The Holy Spirit falls upon (comes down on)**
  - a. Acts 10:44, 11:15
- 9. The Holy Spirit is poured out on**
  - a. Acts 2:33, 10:45
- 10. The Spirit is given**
  - a. Acts 8:18 (John 7:39; 1 John 3:24, 4:13; Luke 11:13; 1 Thess. 4:8; 2 Cor. 1:22, 5:5; 2 Timothy 1:6)