

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The main evidence that someone is being filled with the Holy Spirit is a demonstration of power for ministry in some kind of vocal way. This includes speaking in other tongues, prophecy, singing, preaching, proclaiming, or speaking boldly. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is an experience that is continuous. It's a lifestyle! The Father fills us with His Holy Spirit so that we can have power to live our lives and minister to others.

Who Is the Holy Spirit?

A Person – equal with Jesus & the Father

John 14:16-17 (NIV)

- (16) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—
- (17) the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

A Promise

Luke 24:49 (NIV)

- (49) I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

A Gift

Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)

- (4) On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.
- (5) For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

A Seal (mark) of Ownership

Ephesians 4:30 (NIV)

- (30) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

A Guarantee

Ephesians 1:13-14 (NIV)

- (13) And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,
- (14) who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

A Deposit

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 (NIV)

- (21) Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us,
- (22) set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

A Companion

John 14:17-18 (NIV)

- (17) the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.
- (18) I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

A Counselor

John 14:26 (NIV)

- (26) But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

The Truth

John 16:13-15 (NIV)

- (13) But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.
(14) He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.
(15) All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

What Is the Holy Spirit For?

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

- (8) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 2:4-12 (NIV)

- (4) All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.
(5) Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.
(6) When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.
(7) Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?
(8) Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?
(9) Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
(10) Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome
(11) (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”
(12) Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”

Acts 2:13-18 (NIV)

- (13) Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”
(14) Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.
(15) These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning!
(16) No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:
(17) “ ‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.
(18) Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Acts 4:31 (NIV)

- (31) After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Acts 19:6 (NIV)

- (6) When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

Ephesians 5:18-20 (NIV)

- (18) Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,
(19) speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,
(20) always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)

- (18) And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

Jude 1:20 (NIV)

- (20) But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

What Are the Results?

The Greek word and meaning (tense) are shown in brackets [].

Luke 1:41-45 (NIV)

- (41) When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.
(42) In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!
(43) But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
(44) As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.
(45) Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

Elisabeth filled with the Holy Spirit.
[Pletho — to fill, supply] → She prophesied.

Luke 2:25-32 (NIV)

- (25) Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him.
- (26) It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.
- (27) Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,
- (28) Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:
- (29) "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
- (30) For my eyes have seen your salvation,
- (31) which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
- (32) a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

The Holy Spirit was upon Simeon.
[Ep — upon] → He prophesied.

Luke 4:1-15 (NIV)

- (1) Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,
- (2) where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.
- (3) The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."
- (4) Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.' "
- (5) The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.
- (6) And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to.
- (7) If you worship me, it will all be yours."
- (8) Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.' "
- (9) The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here.
- (10) For it is written: " 'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;
- (11) they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.' "
- (12) Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "
- (13) When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.
- (14) Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.
- (15) He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

Jesus full of the Holy Spirit.
[Pleres — to fill] → He was teaching, empowering.

Luke 24:49 (NIV)

- (49) I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

(Disciples) will be clothed, endowed with power.
[Enduo — to come upon, to sink down] → Power for ministry.

Acts 4:8 (NIV)

- (8) Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!

Peter filled with the Holy Spirit.
[Plestheis — filled at that very moment] → He preached.

Acts 10:44, 11:15

Acts 10:44 (NIV)

- (44) While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

Acts 11:15 (NIV)

- (15) "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning.

Holy Spirit fell on Cornelius' household.
[Epipipto — to come upon, to fall upon] → They spoke in tongues, and exalted God.

Acts 13:52 (NIV)

- (52) And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Disciples filled with the Holy Spirit.
[Pleroo (iterative tense) — filled again or continuously] → Spoke, multitudes believed.

Who Can Receive the Holy Spirit?

John 7:38-39 (NIV)

(38) Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”

(39) By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

How Often Can People Be Filled With the Holy Spirit?

Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)

(18) Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,

What Are ‘Tongues’ For?

1 Corinthians 14:1-18 (NIV)

(1) Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.

(2) For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.

(3) But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.

(4) Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.

(5) I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

(6) Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction?

(7) Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes?

(8) Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

(9) So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air.

(10) Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning.

(11) If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is a foreigner to me.

(12) So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.

(13) For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say.

(14) For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.

(15) So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

(16) Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying?

(17) You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified.

(18) I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

1 Corinthians 14:4 (NIV)

(4) Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.

1 Corinthians 14:16 (NIV)

(16) Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying?

1 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)

(18) Some of you have become arrogant, as if I were not coming to you.

Why are intelligent words and prophecy better than ‘tongues’ in a public setting?

Ask a Friend

Do you have any questions about the Holy Spirit?

Application

Read Luke 11:13 & Acts 8:17

Luke 11:13 (NIV)

(13) 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!”

Acts 8:17 (NIV)

(17) Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

How can we receive the Holy Spirit?

Prayer Model

Holy Spirit, I ask You to come and live in me, and fill me with Your power to minister to others.

Key Verse

Ephesians 6:18

“Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.”

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