

Lessons Learned in the
School of the Spirit
Session 1

When Was the Holy Spirit Given?

- When Jesus breathed upon his disciples after the resurrection

Receive the Holy Spirit

John 20 (NKJV)

The Apostles Commissioned

19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace *be* with you.” **20** When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and *His* side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

Receive the Holy Spirit

John 20 (NKJV)

21 So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” **22** And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained.”

When were the disciples baptized
in the Holy Spirit?

- On the Day of Pentecost

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

Acts 1 (ESV)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

1 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, **2** until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3** He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; **5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2 (ESV)

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

A Miracle of Hearing

Acts 2 (ESV)

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6** And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. **7** And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? **9** Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, **11** both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” **12** And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” **13** But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Does the Holy Spirit baptize today?

- Peter prophesied that the Holy Spirit would be poured out in the Last Days
- All the gifts of the Holy Spirit are active today

The Holy Spirit in the Last Days

Acts 2 (ESV)

Peter's Sermon at Pentecost

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. 15 For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.^[b] 16 But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

17

“And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;

18

even on my male servants^[c] and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

19

And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;

20

the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

21

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

When is a believer filled with the Spirit?

- When the believer is born again, the Spirit comes in to the believer
- When the believer is baptized in the Holy Spirit, the Spirit comes upon the believer

Gentiles Receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Acts 11 (NKJV)

Peter Defends God's Grace

12 Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. **13** And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, **14** who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.' **15** And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Acts 11 (NKJV)

16 Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' **17** If therefore God gave them the same gift as *He gave* us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?"

18 When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."

How can the believer receive the Holy Spirit?

- Prayer and laying on of hands by the elders
- Ask and keep on asking
- Seek God the giver, not the gift

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a second work of grace

Acts 19 (NKJV)

Paul at Ephesus

1 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus.

And finding some disciples 2 he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

3 And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?”

So they said, “Into John’s baptism.”

The Holy Spirit is a second work of grace

Acts 19 (NKJV)

4 Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.”

5 When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

7 Now the men were about twelve in all.

God distributes the gifts

1 Corinthians 12 (NKJV)

Spiritual Gifts: Unity in Diversity

12 Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: **2** You know that[a] you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. **3** Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

God distributes the gifts

1 Corinthians 12 (NKJV)

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

Ask for the Holy Spirit

Luke 11 NKJV

Keep Asking, Seeking, Knocking

9 “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. **10** For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. **11** If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he asks* for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? **12** Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? **13** If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Do I have to speak in tongues to be filled with the Spirit?

- The gift of tongues is one of many gifts that provide evidence that the believer is filled with the Spirit
- Speaking in tongues is neither required nor forbidden

Seek the best gifts

1 Corinthians 12 (NKJV)

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. **28** And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. **29** Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? **30** Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? **31** But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

Why speak in tongues?

- Speaking in tongues edifies the believer
- Praying in the Spirit is the most powerful prayer

The Holy Spirit makes intercession for us

Romans 8 (NKJV)

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. **27** Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

Lessons Learned

- First be sure your heart is right toward God and then everything else will be put right
- God cares about my kids more than I do and he knows when they are in trouble even when I don't

Lessons Learned

- The power of intercession saved my grandparents when they were too old to hear or understand
- The power of intercession has avoided traffic fatalities more than once

The Word of knowledge helped found this church

- Clay's calling made sure
- Nancy's calling made sure

Spiritual gifts as needed

- the gift of faith saves a leg
- the word of knowledge saves a soul
- the gift of healing comes when needed

Transported in the Spirit

- the impossible drive made possible

The Word of Wisdom

- The Word of Wisdom guides decisions