

Chapter 5

Steps to Salvation and Baptism with the Holy Spirit

I want to give you some simple steps that will show you how to get someone born again and baptized with the Holy Spirit. I have also included scriptures that correlate with each point. With these simple instructions, any born again believer can lead another person to salvation and being filled with the Holy Spirit!

Salvation - Step by Step

First of all, let's take a look at the steps to salvation. The scriptures that I quote in these steps should be read to the person you are ministering to. The scriptures I only list references for can be referred to when talking to the person, but do not need to be read.

Step 1:

Every person must be born again to know God and have everlasting life. John 3:3 says; "Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:16)

Step 2:

The reason why we must be born again is found in Roman 3:23: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Step 3:

Romans 6:23 says you cannot earn salvation. I recommend that you quote this scripture to them since certain religions teach that salvation is earned by the works you do.

- a. There is nothing you can do on your own.
- b. Salvation is God's gift to us (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Step 4:

Being saved or born again is receiving Jesus as your Lord (Master), and committing yourself to follow His Word. Romans 10:9-10 says: "That if you confess with your mouth Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (I John 2:3)

Step 5:

Ask the person: "Are you ready to make this life changing commitment; to change from your way to accept Jesus' way?"

Step 6:

If they are ready, pray and lead the person into a confession of faith. Make sure they ask Jesus to be their Lord. Here is an example of a prayer you might lead them in: "God, I

come to you in the name of Jesus and I ask you to come into my life. I confess that Jesus is my Lord, and I believe in my heart that You have raised Him from the dead. I turn my back on sin, renounce all other religions and commit to follow You for the rest of my life. I am now a child of God. Thank you, Father, for saving me!”

Step 7:

You are now born again, forgiven, and on your way to heaven, (II Corinthians 5:17). Yet, this is only the beginning. You need to renew your mind to live the victorious life God has provided for you. Romans 12:1-2 says: “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

- a. You must grow and learn God’s Word (Romans 10:17)
- b. You must be fed regularly (Hebrews 10:25)

Step 8:

If doubts or fears come to mind about your salvation, reject them and realize that the Bible is what your new birth is based on, and not what you think or feel (Romans 9-10).

Step 9:

God has also given us another gift, which is the baptism of the Holy Spirit. May I show you what the Bible teaches us...

From here you can go right into the steps to baptism of the Holy Spirit. The transition from one to the other is very simple and easy. If they are not willing to go on at this point, you can stop by rejoicing with them. Show them how excited you are for them and what a good decision they have made. Make sure they know that they need to be baptized in water as a believer (Mark 16:15-17).

Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Step by Step

Step 1:

Have you confessed Jesus as Lord? (Romans 10:9-10)

Step 2:

Let’s look at Who the Holy Spirit is:

- a. John 14:26 says: “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” He is your comforter and teacher. He helps you in everyday situations.

b. Acts 1:8 says: "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." He is your power, abundant strength, and ability to be an overcomer, and live a victorious life.

Step 3:

What happens when you are filled? Acts 2:4 says: "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.: You will speak in tongues. This is the first evidence of being baptized with the Holy Spirit.

a. The Holy Spirit is already here for every born again person. You don't have to wait or work for Him.

b. Acts 2:38-39 refers to the Holy Spirit as being a gift to every believer.

Step 4:

Your mind will not understand or gain anything from tongues; it will sound useless and foolish to the natural mind. You are speaking mysteries to God, not to man. I Corinthians 14:2 says: "For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understand him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries." I Corinthians 14:14-15 says: "For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding." Speaking in tongues is an act of your will. God will not force you to do it, or do it for you.

Step 5:

If you ask for the Holy Spirit in faith, you will receive. Luke 11:13 says: "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!"

Step 6:

Ask the person if they have any questions. If not, are they ready to receive the Holy Spirit?

Step 7:

Have the person ask for the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13), then lead them into a confession of thanking God for filling them with the Holy Spirit. An example is: "Father, I come in the name of Jesus, and I thank you for filling me with Your Holy Spirit right now. I receive Him with the evidence of praying in other tongues. I will pray out boldly in other tongues right now in Jesus' name." After praying this prayer, both of you will begin to pray in tongues.

Step 8:

Praying in tongues regularly will build (edify) or charge up the spirit man. Jude 20 says: "But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit."

Step 9:

They need to be baptized in water if they haven't yet as a believer (Acts 2:28; and Mark 16:15-17).

Ministering Salvation

When you begin to talk with a person, and feel that they need Jesus, simply ask them if they are born again. It is very important that you do not assume anything relative to the person's background. You need to be certain that they either are or are not saved. Most likely, if the person is saved according to Romans 10:9-10, they will be able to tell you when they were born again, and how they did it. It is not good enough for them to say, "God has always been a part of my life," to "I've always known the man upstairs." You need to ask them specifically if they are born again or if they are saved (those mean the same thing). Ask key questions that will better enable you to minister to their particular needs.

Knowing a person's church background may enable you to answer questions you know they have, or clear up areas of question that have been keeping them from receiving all God has for them. They may think they are born again, or they may think they have always been a Christian, but unless they have made Jesus their Lord, and are committed to follow Jesus according to Romans 10:9-10, they are not born again.

For example, if you are ministering to someone who has come from a Catholic, Mormon, or Jehovah's Witness background, you will want to emphasize to them that salvation is a gift of God, and not something we earn by the works we do. When you minister to someone from a "religious" background, you must be very clear about what the Word of God says. Religion will not save someone. Works will not save someone. Being involved with a cult will not save someone. Doing what the Word of God says will!

As an effective witness, you must be strongly established in God's Word, because many people believe that if you are a Catholic, or a Baptist, or a Methodist, etc., you are automatically going to heaven! That is not true. Many "religions" do not teach that you must be born again according to Romans 10:9-10. Some don't even acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God. Once you find out what kind of religious background a person has come from, you must be very clear about what the Word of God says about being born again and filled with the Holy Spirit. Make sure that you minister in love and not with the pompous attitude that you are right, and they are wrong,

I was raised in the Methodist church. My father was even a pastor, but I was not born again. I didn't know what the Bible said about being born again. I never read my Bible, and no one in the church ever told me about being born again. When you are sharing with someone, do not assume they know something just because they grew up in a certain church. Chances are, they don't know what the Bible says about being born again and filled with the Holy Spirit. They may know what their denomination says, or what someone else says, but all that matters is what the Word of God says.

Once you have determined a person's needs and some of their background, you can begin to go through the scriptures and minister to that person. You might start by saying, *"Every person must be born again to know God and to have everlasting life."* **Turn to John 3:3** and read it to them.

Then go right into, "The reason you must be born again is found in Romans 3:23: **"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"** These Scriptures are in a very specific order because they are teaching a person step-by-step on why they are making the choice to accept Jesus.

Romans 6:23 is one of the scriptures that you would quote: **"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."** It is not necessary that you look this scripture up.

After you have quoted it explain that the way they are living is going to lead to death but Jesus has given us a free gift, which is life everlasting. Keep in mind that too many scriptures can confuse a person. It is a good idea to just quote some scriptures.

After you have explained that Jesus gives life everlasting, explain that they cannot earn salvation. Say, *"There is nothing you can do on your own. It is a gift of God, not something earned by working or trying to be good."*

"Being saved or born again, is receiving Jesus as your Lord and your Savior, and committing yourself to follow His Word, the Bible." Then you would read Romans 10:9-10. Once you have read that scripture, you might say, *"Do you believe that God raised Jesus from the dead?"* Once they say that they do believe, you can then ask if they are ready to make the life-changing commitment to make Jesus their Lord.

Some people don't like the word "commitment," but that is exactly what becoming a Christian is about, it is a life-changing commitment. Don't lighten that reality up at all. They must recognize it as a life-changing commitment and they have to choose between the god of this world and God the Father. They must accept Jesus as their only Savior and make Him their Lord. Make that very clear.

If you have just read Romans 10:9-10 to them, and don't explain what it means to make someone their Lord they can easily miss the point. They might think that all they have to do is say with their mouth that Jesus is their Lord, and that will get them saved. You might ask them, *"Do you know what it means to make someone your Lord?"* Before they can answer, go ahead and tell them that it means making them your boss, and whatever they say, you are sure to do. So, if Jesus is your Lord, He is your Boss. In order for you to do what He wants you to do, you have to do what the Bible says.

The Bible is the Word of God, and that's what Jesus wants you to follow. When you make Jesus your Lord, what you're doing is deciding to turn from your way of thinking; and follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior. You must follow Him according to what the Bible says.

Once the person makes this decision you lead them in the confession of faith. Use a very simple prayer, such as, **"God, I come to you in the name of Jesus..."** (Don't open the prayer with "Father," because He is not their Father, as of yet. They are not born again.) **"...I ask you to come into my life, I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that You have raised Him from the dead. I turn my back on sin and renounce all other religions. I am not a child of God. Thank you, Jesus!"**

This prayer is not for you to memorize word for word, it is a basic prayer that contains all the ingredients a person needs to be born again. Let me caution you about using a lot of frills. Don't be guilty of being repetitious. Stay clear of adding a lot of flowery, religious language as this way of communication will surely go right over the person's head. Be very clear and basic so that there are no questions. We want them to understand exactly what he/she is saying, and the exact result of these statements.

Don't eliminate the part about renouncing other religions. The Holy Spirit gave me that word very strongly when I was in the Philippines. He said, "Wendy, it is a necessity that you have people renounce anything that would hold them back." It came to me strongly in the Philippines because there is a lot of witchcraft, religion and a lot of things about Catholicism that are not practiced in the U.S. Even in America, people worship other things and these practices cannot continue once Jesus is their Lord. Go through it with confidence and clarity, and they will follow right along.

The prayer is not that, as you lead them, they will repeat after you. Do not give them too many words to remember, or too few words to speak either. Lead them with enough words each time so they can follow along and it still flows smoothly. Keep an entire thought together. Make it easy for them to understand exactly what they are saying.

Once you have finished the prayer, continue to follow the steps. Explain to them that they are now born again and on their way to heaven, yet that step was only the first step. Explain the importance of renewing your mind to live the victorious life God has for each one of

us. Many people have been born again, and then they go and do their own thing. You must show the person the importance of studying God's Word and renewing their mind to what it says. Their thinking must come into alignment with God's thinking.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

They must grow and be trained on the Word of God and be fed regularly. This is what you really want to implant in them. If they get born again in your church, they should come back to your church unless they live far away and are just visiting. Church is what they need to get their spiritual food on a continual basis. Let them know that they need to come back to church and be fed the Word of God in a community setting.

When babies are born in the world, they must be taught everything; how to walk, talk, and live. As a newborn Christian, we also must be taught how to walk and talk in the way that Jesus teaches us to live. Make them aware that they must get involved in a church under a pastor who teaches the Bible. They need to learn God's Word in a practical and relevant manner in order to become strong as a Christian. Also, explain to them that when doubt and fear enter their mind, they were born again based on the Word of God and it was a decision made by faith in accordance with what they read in Romans 10:9-10. It doesn't matter how they feel, what matters is God's promise to save them.

Water baptism is another step that they must take after they have become born again. Being baptized in water does not save us; it is an outward expression of what has already taken place spiritually.

Mark 16:16 says: **"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."** Jesus made water baptism a very important step in your relationship with Him. Water baptism as a believer is not the same thing as being christened or sprinkled when you were a child. At that time, you weren't old enough to make the choice to believe in Jesus and therefore did not make the choice to be baptized. The Bible says that once you believe, you must be baptized. You are baptized in water in obedience to the Word of God and as an outward expression of the unseen spiritual decision.

Remember when ministering to people to let the Bible speak for itself. The Bible is powerful and people are drawn to the saving power of Jesus. We do not need to defend or

justify the contents. Be confident in the message of Christ. Put the Word out there and let it stand on its own.

After the person is saved, offer them the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Explain how God has given us another gift that equips and empowers us to live with comfort and clarity throughout our daily lives-the Holy Spirit. Show them what the Bible says about the Holy Spirit, if they are open to it, lead them into the scriptures. If they are not open to it then do not push the subject.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

In helping someone receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, they must first be born again. Never assume because someone has been around church or around Christians, they are born again. Simply because someone can use the common church terminology does not mean they are born again or filled with the Holy Spirit, and we are not assume they are.

The Bible tells us the world cannot receive the Holy Spirit. A person must first be born again and they filled with the Holy Spirit.

“The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

John 14:17

Ask them how they know they are born again: this is not to embarrass but to ensure that they truly have confessed and believe that Jesus is their Savior. If they respond by flippantly says they have been born again since they were young, ask them when and where they were born again. Remember to respond in kindness and love, but the issue of salvation mustn't be carelessly overlooked. They is the most important decision they have ever made, or hopefully will make shortly.

You can usually tell when a person is truly born again, but if you have any questions at all, do not let it pass by unchallenged. It never hurts to go through the simple steps of salvation again; afterwards you both will have confidence in their eternity.

At this point, show them who the Holy Spirit is. Remember that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Godhead and “He”, not and “it”. Turn together in John 14:26, and show them that He is their Comforter and Teacher. He is the one who helps them in their every day life and is their power to live victoriously and to witness, as shown in Acts 1:8. You are showing them who the third person of the Trinity is, and that they can receive Him.

“And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:4

Next, show them what happens when you are filled with the Holy Spirit. Share with them that the Holy Spirit is available for every born again Christian, and that you don't have to work, or wait for Him. The evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit is beginning to speak with other tongues. Every person who is filled with the Holy Spirit has the ability to pray in other tongues; the gift is given to all believers, not given to just an exclusive group. God is not a respecter of persons, He freely gives His gifts to ALL people (Acts 2:38-39).

“For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.” 1 Corinthians 14:2

With our human mind we do not understand what it means to pray in tongues. Your natural mind will not know what you are saying. Explain to them that praying in tongues is an act of their will. 1 Corinthians 14:15 says: “...I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding...” Make it clear that you must choose to pray in the Holy Spirit. It is not going to happen without our blatant desire and obedience. Just as we have decided to talk to God through prayer in English or our native language; we also decide to pray in the Holy Spirit.

When we decided to take the step to pray in tongues, the Holy Spirit is our helper. Explain that although we must use our mouth and vocal chords, they are teaming with the Holy Spirit and working together. God will not do it for them, nor can they do it without God. As they open their heart up in obedience to Him, the Holy Spirit fills them and they work together as a team.

The Bible says, “...when you ask...” Make sure that they ask for the Holy Spirit, you cannot do it for them. Similar to the prayer of salvation, lead them in the prayer of receiving the Holy Spirit. Such as, ***“Father, I ask you to fill me with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of praying in other tongues. I receive Him from You and according to the Bible, I will pray out boldly in other tongues right now, in Jesus’ name.”***

The guideline I have explained is just a guideline, but remember to keep the scriptures in the order given, as to avoid confusion. Also, remember to explain what will happen after the two of you pray together. Tell them that once the prayer is concluded, you both are going to begin to pray out in other tongues.

Before you pray for them, tell them you will put your hand on their shoulder as a point of contact. I have never had anyone say no, but tell them first to avoid any shock or discomfort. Then have them pray, by leading them through the prayer.

As soon as you conclude the prayer, begin praying in tongues and they will also. A few hints: Have them close their eyes, but you keep yours open. If they have not opened their mouth, try to encourage them to speak out boldly, and continue to pray in tongues yourself. When you pray, pray boldly! The person you are praying with will match your volume; if you whisper and are bashful, they will follow suit.

Be bold and confident in your gift of praying in the Holy Spirit. If they still do not respond, stop and ask them gently what is going on with them. Find out if they have questions, are still nervous, or don't know what to do; but don't be afraid to ask what is going on. Always go back to the scripture to help them overcome what is hindering them. You may want to show them I Corinthians 14:15 again, and tell them it is an act of their will. And that they need to speak out. God won't force them or do it for them. Then, go ahead and pray in tongues with them.

Never refer to the first words someone speaks, when they are filled with the Holy Spirit, as "baby talk". Initially, a person may not have a large vocabulary, but they are not talking "baby talk." I have heard many people use this analogy that the first words you speak in tongues are similar to that of a baby's first words. Then, as you grow older, you have a more developed language. The Bible says we receive a language. Yes, we do need to grow in our language so that it becomes fluent, but we start speaking a language.

If you were to go to school to learn a different language, you wouldn't start off by learning actual words that mean something. You don't immediately know the whole dialect, but you learn words. When you receive your prayer language, you receive words of a language from God, and you receive a language, a very specific and unique prayer language for you to pray specifically to God to intercede for yourself and the world.

Once you have prayed with someone to be born again or filled with the Holy Spirit, let them tell you what happened, or what they have received. Don't tell them that they have got it, ask them to explain to you what they have, or what they were doing. Let them speak it out of their own mouth, because they will believe that they say. If you tell them, they could question it, doubt it, and wonder whether it was real or not; but if they tell you what happened to them, they will not lie about it.

There have been some instances where people have tried to fool the person praying with them. They would pretend to speak in tongues, but when they were asked what they were doing, they honestly said that they were just making up some words. Now, if the person

praying with them had exclaimed that they had gotten it, and not further questioned them, they would have left and not received.

Once the person tells you what they received, pray with them again in tongues. This time, make sure you don't touch them, so that they know what they can do it on their own. After you are done praying the second time, ask them again what they receive. Once they tell you again, you can be excited with them and say that you heard and saw them pray in other tongues! This excitement and declaration strengthens their decision within them.

It is important to always have the person pray in tongues more than one time. They need to know for sure what has happened, and that it is not a one-time, special event. They need to know that, when they leave you, they can pray in tongues whenever and wherever they want to. They need to know they control it, and it is not something that controls them (I Corinthians 14:15).

Now that they have prayed and are confident with it, show them with them Jude 20. Show them that the Bible says praying in tongues build them up. It charges them up and gets them in touch with the power they have received, the Holy Spirit. Tell them to pray in tongues at least five minutes a day to start. Let them know it is important to pray every day, to stay built up, as Jude says. The decision to accept the Holy Spirit and accept the language He gives is one of the best decisions we could ever make.