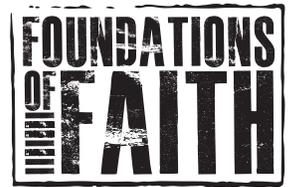


Lesson #7: The Baptism of the Holy Spirit



Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Read Matthew 3:11. What did John the Baptist say Jesus would do? _____

Read Acts 1:8. What does God say the Holy Spirit will do for us? Why? _____

Story of Jesus' Baptism and Pentacost

God desires to send the Holy Spirit to "come upon" us in power. This is called the baptism of the Holy Spirit and is different from when the Holy Spirit came into your life when you were saved (see Acts 19:1-7). The baptism of the Spirit is not just a one-time experience but we are encouraged to "be continually filled" with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18; John 20:22; Acts 2:4, 4:31). The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a personal encounter with God that draws us close to Him and empowers us to glorify Him on earth.



Power of the Holy Spirit

According to these verses, what power does God give us?

John 14:12 _____

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 _____

We need the baptism of the Holy Spirit so that we can do the works that Jesus did – even greater ones (Hebrews 2:4). The Holy Spirit also gives us gifts to serve the church and extend the Kingdom of God. These gifts are abilities that are supernaturally empowered by God. Every believer in Jesus has at least one primary spiritual gift to contribute to the body of Christ.



Receiving the Holy Spirit

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs in a variety of ways throughout the New Testament. There is no one method for being baptized with the Holy Spirit. Neither is there only one demonstration of the Spirit. The following are common, biblical characteristics of those who experience the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Receiving the Baptism of the Spirit includes. . . Verse

A desire for more of God	"those that hunger and thirst for righteousness...will be filled." (Matthew 5:6)
A desire for spiritual gifts and God's power	"eagerly desire spiritual gifts" (1 Corinthians 14:1)
Confessing all known sins	"Many of those who believed...openly confessed their evil deeds." (Acts 19:18)
Coming to Jesus and believing	"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believe in me... streams of living water [Holy Spirit] will flow from within." (John 7:37-38)
Asking the Father in prayer	"your Father in heaven gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." (Luke 11:13)
Expecting manifestations like prophecy or tongues or joy or boldness	"The Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied." (Acts 19:6 – See also Acts 4:31-35; 13:53)

Personal testimony on being baptized in the Holy Spirit

➔ Continue to hold each other accountable to practicing what we have learned in past weeks. This week, if they are willing, pray for each other to be baptized in the Spirit. Use this as a catalyst to pray for a sick person this week.