

## Freedom - Week 9

### The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Watch Pastor Randy's Foundations teaching on the baptism of the Holy Spirit at [ChurchoftheKing.com/Freedom](http://ChurchoftheKing.com/Freedom), then discuss the questions below.

#### Overview:

#### What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

There is only one baptism in Christ—meaning we only get saved once. But, we are baptized in and filled with the Holy Spirit throughout our Christian life. We are saved once, but filled continually. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is not a one-time event. We're not re-saved; but we are re-empowered. In the beginning of this small group, we learned about justification and sanctification. Remember, justification is when we are put in right standing with God at the moment we confess Jesus as our Lord & Savior—"just-as-if I had never sinned." Sanctification is a gradual process where we grow to become more and more like Christ. The baptism of the Holy Spirit gives us the power to grow in our sanctification process. We can't do it alone. We need the Holy Spirit to continue to transform our hearts and minds.

When we are baptized in the Spirit, we are empowered and are able to fulfill God's purpose for our lives. But over time, we leak. It is important for us to daily get refilled with the Spirit so we can continue growing closer to God and living the life He has for us.

In **Acts 2:4**, we see the apostles and people of the early church filled with the Holy Spirit: ***All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*** Three chapters later in **Acts 4:31**, we see the same group of people filled with the Holy Spirit again: ***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.*** We see here that the apostles and people of the early church were refilled with the Holy Spirit multiple times. If the apostles needed a continual refilling of God's Spirit, how much more do we need Him!

#### Why be Baptized in the Holy Spirit?

We learned in week 3 that as Christians, our bodies are Temples of the Holy Spirit. However, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is when He comes upon you and empowers you to be His Witness in the earth. **The Holy Spirit provides power to give you victory over sin and is also the power source to conform your character into the image of Jesus Christ.** In addition to this, the Holy Spirit also comes on you to be a witness. In

Acts 1:5, Jesus says: *“For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”* Jesus is saying we should be baptized, or immersed, in the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit doesn't come upon us just so we *feel* good; He comes upon us so we can *do* good. Then, we feel good in the process. **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.”***

**The Holy Spirit fills us with power for a purpose—to be a witness for Christ and share His love.**

**1 Corinthians 12:7-11: *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 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. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.***

In 1 Corinthians 12:7-11, Paul gives us a listing of the gifts of the Spirit – such as the gifts of wisdom, healing, words of knowledge, tongues, faith, etc. Many who are filled with the Holy Spirit will experience these gifts. Have you ever been prayed for by someone and they prayed for things that you hadn't shared with anyone before? Or have you ever heard of someone being supernaturally healed? Those people were operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit and were allowing the Holy Spirit to work through them in those moments. You may see or experience the Holy Spirit working in any of these ways.

In these same verses, Paul also shares the purpose of these gifts: “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all...” **The Holy Spirit comes upon us to work through us for the good of His Kingdom.**

## How to be Baptized in the Holy Spirit

1. Ask.

Jesus said in Luke 11:10-13: *“For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 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? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 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!”*

2. Receive.

Mark 11:24 says: *“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”*

When we ask God for the gift of the Holy Spirit, we can be confident that we are asking according to His will and will receive. It was Jesus Himself who instructed us to ask for this gift! Simply ask God in faith to be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and expect Him to fill you and empower you.

## Small Group Questions

1. Why is the Holy Spirit important in our lives? What is His purpose?
2. Have you ever had an experience where the Holy Spirit guided you?
3. What is the difference between salvation and the baptism in the Holy Spirit?
4. Have you been baptized with the Holy Spirit? If so, how has your life been impacted? If not, what are your hesitations?
5. What are the benefits of being baptized in the Spirit?
6. Why is it important to continually get refilled with the Holy Spirit?