

Summer To Remember: The Father's Gift

June 21, 2026

Luke 24:49 NLT 49 “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.”

Acts 1:4-8 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.” 6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 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 10:38 NIV how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

Being filled with the Holy Spirit doesn't make me better than you, it makes me better than me.

Spirit-Filled Prayer

The priority of prayer.

Acts 1:14 NIV They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Acts 2:42 NIV They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Prayer needs to be our first response, not our last resort.

The plan of prayer.

Luke 11:1-2 NLT Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” Jesus said, “This is how you should pray...”

Matthew 6:9-13 NIV “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.””

The power of prayer.

Acts 4:23-24 NIV On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.”

1) Powerful prayers are unified.

2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Matthew 18:18-20 NIV “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

“There has never been a spiritual awakening in any country or locality that did not begin in united prayer.” - A.T. Pierson

Acts 4:25 NIV You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: “Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?”

2) Powerful prayers are Scriptural.

2 Corinthians 1:20 NLT For all of God’s promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding “Yes!” And through Christ, our “Amen” (which means “Yes”) ascends to God for his glory.

Prayer is prophecy to my future.

Acts 4:29-31 NIV “Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” 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.

3) Powerful prayers are bold.

James 5:16 NKJV The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

“God honors bold prayers because bold prayers honor God.” - Mark Batterson

“Lord of the universe, I swear before Your great name that I will not move from this circle until You have shown mercy upon Your children.”

“Not for such rain have I prayed, but for rain that will fill cisterns, pits, and caverns.”

“Not for such rain have I prayed, but for rain of Your favor, blessing, and graciousness.”
