

# “A Man Full of the Holy Spirit”

## Summary

This powerful message on Pentecost Sunday invites us to encounter Jesus as a man completely filled with the Holy Spirit—without measure, without limitation. We're challenged to see beyond religious presentations of Christ to discover the real Jesus, the one who carried the sevenfold Spirit of God in fullness. The sermon draws us into the profound truth that Jesus emptied Himself completely—of His own agenda, His own preservation, His own will—so that He could be filled to overflowing with the Father's Spirit. This kenosis, this divine emptying, becomes the pattern for our own lives. We discover that being filled with the Holy Spirit isn't just about personal blessing or spiritual goosebumps; it's about being equipped with power to overcome temptation and to minister effectively to a broken world. The message traces God's redemptive plan through the Jewish feasts, showing how Passover pointed to Christ's sacrifice and Pentecost to the outpouring of the Spirit. We're reminded that fullness isn't meant to be contained—God is a fountain, not a cistern. When we truly encounter the Holy Spirit, we become fountains ourselves, overflowing with rivers of living water that reach beyond our own needs to touch others. This isn't about religious performance but about genuine hunger and surrender, about being willing to look foolish in the eyes of others if it means receiving everything God has for us.

## Small Group Study Guide – A Man Full of the Holy Spirit

### Opening Prayer & Icebreaker (10 minutes)

**Icebreaker Question:** When you hear the phrase "filled with the Holy Spirit," what comes to mind? What experiences or teachings have shaped your understanding?

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### Key Sermon Takeaways (Review - 5 minutes)

1. **Jesus was a man full of the Holy Spirit without measure** - He carried all facets of the Spirit's power
2. **To be filled, we must first be emptied** - Jesus emptied Himself of His own agenda to be filled with God's purpose
3. **Being filled leads to overflow** - We're not meant to be containers but fountains

4. **The baptism in the Holy Spirit empowers us for witness** - It's about personal victory AND ministry to others
  5. **God gives good gifts to those who ask** - We can trust God when we seek the Holy Spirit
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## Discussion Questions (30-40 minutes)

### Section 1: Understanding Fullness

**Q1:** Pastor Rob described Jesus as carrying "the sevenfold Spirit of God" (Isaiah 11:1-2) - the Spirit of the Lord, wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, and fear of the Lord. Which of these do you feel you most need in your current season? Why?

**Q2:** What does it mean practically to be "emptied of yourself"? The sermon mentioned Jesus didn't come to do His own will but the Father's. What areas of your life might God be asking you to surrender?

### Section 2: Personal Victory and Power

**Q3:** Jesus was "led by the Spirit into the wilderness" for testing before returning "in the power of the Spirit" for ministry. How does this pattern challenge our expectations about the Spirit-filled life? Have you experienced times of testing that led to greater spiritual authority?

**Q4:** Pastor Rob said, "Personal infilling for personal victory." What personal battles or temptations do you face that require the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome?

### Section 3: Containers vs. Fountains

**Q5:** The sermon contrasted being a "cistern" (container) versus being a "fountain" (overflow). In what ways might we be tempted to contain God rather than let Him flow through us? What does this look like practically?

**Q6:** Jesus said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" (John 7:37-38). Who in your life needs the overflow of what God has given you? How might God be calling you to minister to others?

### Section 4: Addressing Concerns

**Q7:** Pastor Rob acknowledged that some have been taught that speaking in tongues or the baptism of the Holy Spirit is "of the devil." If you've struggled with this concern, what does Jesus' teaching in Luke 11:11-13 mean to you? ("How much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?")

**Q8:** Pastor Rob shared his own honest journey of receiving the Holy Spirit, including doubts and questions. How does authenticity about spiritual experiences help or hinder our faith communities?

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## Personal Reflection (10 minutes)

Take a few moments of silence for personal reflection. Consider journaling responses to these questions:

- **Where am I spiritually?**
    - I've never opened my heart to Jesus
    - I'm a believer but have never experienced the baptism in the Holy Spirit
    - I've been prayed for but nothing significant happened
    - I've experienced the Spirit's power but have "cooled off"
    - I'm actively flowing in the gifts and seeking more
  - **What is my honest heart posture right now?** Am I thirsty? Skeptical? Curious? Afraid? Hungry?
  - **What is one specific step I can take this week to seek more of God's Spirit?**
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## Practical Applications (Choose 1-2 as a group)

### Option 1: Daily Prayer for Infilling

**Commitment:** Spend 10 minutes each morning this week asking God to fill you with His Spirit. Use Luke 11:13 as your prayer anchor: "Father, You said You give the Holy Spirit to those who ask. I'm asking. Fill me today."

### Option 2: Study the Book of Acts

**Action:** Read one chapter of Acts each day this week, noting every mention of the Holy Spirit. Journal what you learn about how the Spirit worked in the early church.

### Option 3: Identify Your "Overflow"

**Exercise:** Make a list of 3-5 people in your life who need to experience God's love through you. Pray specifically for opportunities to minister to them this week, asking the Holy Spirit to work through you.

## Option 4: Address Your Barriers

**Reflection:** If you've been hesitant about the baptism in the Holy Spirit, spend time this week researching the biblical foundation. Read Acts 2, Acts 8:14-17, Acts 10:44-48, and Acts 19:1-6. Write down your questions and bring them to a trusted spiritual leader.

## Option 5: Practice Yielding

**Daily Discipline:** Each day this week, identify one moment where you can choose to empty yourself of your own agenda and yield to what God might be asking. It could be as simple as responding with patience instead of anger, or serving when you'd rather rest.

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## Closing Discussion (5-10 minutes)

**Q9:** The sermon emphasized that Pentecost fulfilled God's pattern of the feasts. What does it mean to you that God is intentional and follows through on His promises? How does this build your faith?

**Q10:** pastor Rob said, "Are we more concerned with what God has in store for us or are we more concerned with looking good in the eyes of people?" How would you honestly answer that question? What needs to change?

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## Prayer Time (10-15 minutes)

### Group Prayer Focus:

1. **Pray for hunger** - Ask God to increase your thirst for more of Him
2. **Pray for emptying** - Surrender areas where you've been holding back
3. **Pray for filling** - Ask specifically for the baptism/fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit
4. **Pray for overflow** - Ask God to make you a fountain, not a container
5. **Pray for boldness** - Like the disciples in Acts 2, pray for courage to be witnesses

**Ministry Time:** If anyone in the group desires prayer for salvation, baptism in the Holy Spirit, or fresh infilling, take time to pray for them. Remember the Pastor Rob's words: God gives good gifts to those who ask. Trust Him.

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## Before Next Week

- **Follow through** on your chosen practical application
- **Share** with at least one person what God is teaching you about the Holy Spirit

- **Come prepared** to share testimonies of how God moved in your life this week
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## Additional Resources

- **Scripture Memory:** Acts 1:8 - "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me..."
  - **Recommended Reading:** Acts chapters 1-2 (the Pentecost account)
  - **Worship Playlist:** Create a personal worship playlist and spend time this week worshiping, asking God to meet you in that space
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*"What manner of man is this? A man full of the Holy Spirit - and that's who we're called to become."*

## Main Points – A Man Full of the Holy Spirit

**Sermon Summary:** This Pentecost Sunday message explores Jesus as a man fully empowered by the Holy Spirit and calls believers to the same fullness. The sermon emphasizes that being filled with the Holy Spirit is not optional but essential for effective Christian living and ministry. It addresses common misconceptions about the baptism of the Holy Spirit, explaining that being filled is not just for personal satisfaction but for overflow into a broken world. The message traces the biblical pattern from Jesus's own Spirit-filled ministry through the Day of Pentecost, demonstrating that God's intention is for His people to be fountains, not containers—constantly flowing with His presence and power to impact others. The sermon challenges believers to move beyond lukewarm Christianity into a place of supernatural empowerment for witness and service.

### Key Points:

- Jesus lived as a man fully empowered by the Holy Spirit without measure, demonstrating what God intends for all believers
- The biblical feasts (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles) were prophetic pictures of God's salvation plan, with Pentecost representing the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- To be filled with the Holy Spirit requires being emptied of self—personal ambitions, self-preservation, and control
- Being filled with the Spirit serves two purposes: personal victory over temptation and power for ministry to others
- The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a distinct experience from salvation, empowering believers to be effective witnesses
- Fullness leads to overflow—believers are called to be fountains, not containers, constantly flowing with God's presence to a broken world
- God can be trusted by sincere seekers; He will not give a wrong spirit to those who genuinely ask for the Holy Spirit
- The gift of speaking in tongues and other spiritual gifts are biblical manifestations of Spirit-filled living
- Staying filled requires ongoing surrender and refusing to settle into lukewarm, predictable Christianity

### Scripture Reference:

- John 3:34 - God gives the Spirit without measure to Jesus
- Isaiah 11:1-2 - The sevenfold Spirit of God resting upon Jesus
- Philippians 2:5-8 - Jesus emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant
- Luke 4:1, 14 - Jesus filled with the Holy Spirit, led into wilderness, returned in power
- Acts 1:4-8 - Jesus commands disciples to wait for baptism in the Holy Spirit to receive power for witness
- Acts 2:1-4 - The Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out
- Acts 10:38 - God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and with power
- Jeremiah 2:13 - God as fountain versus broken cisterns

- John 7:37-39 - Out of believers will flow rivers of living water
- Luke 11:5-13 - Ask and receive; God gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask

## Discussion Questions – A Man Full of the Holy Spirit

How does understanding the Jewish feasts (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles) as prophetic pictures of God's salvation plan deepen your appreciation for the timing and purpose of Jesus' life and ministry?

What does it mean practically to be 'emptied of self' like Jesus demonstrated in Philippians 2, and how does this emptying relate to being filled with the Holy Spirit?

The sermon suggests that being filled with the Holy Spirit is not just for personal satisfaction but for overflow to others. How does this challenge or reshape your understanding of why God wants to fill believers?

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness for testing before ministering in power. What does this pattern teach us about the relationship between personal victory and public ministry?

How do you respond to the statement that 'the natural mind is at enmity with God' when it comes to supernatural manifestations like speaking in tongues or other gifts of the Spirit?

What is the difference between being a 'container' versus a 'fountain' in your spiritual life, and which tendency do you see more in yourself or in the modern church?

How does Jesus' promise in Luke 11 that God will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask address fears or concerns you might have about receiving something counterfeit or demonic?

What does it look like in daily life to refuse to 'settle into lukewarm, predictable things' and instead stay in the flow of God's Spirit?

The sermon describes being filled with the Spirit as necessary for fulfilling the Great Commission. How does this challenge purely strategic or organizational approaches to ministry and evangelism?

# Scriptures – A Man Full of the Holy Spirit

## Explicitly Mentioned References:

1. **John 3:34** - "For he whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives not the Spirit by measure unto him"
2. **Isaiah 11:1-2** - The sevenfold spirit of God resting on the Messiah
3. **Philippians 2:5-8** - Christ emptying himself (kenosis)
4. **Luke 4:1-2** - Jesus filled with the Holy Spirit, led into the wilderness
5. **Luke 4:14** - Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee
6. **Acts 10:36-38** - God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power
7. **Acts 1:4-5** - Command to wait for the baptism of the Holy Spirit
8. **Acts 1:6-8** - "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you"
9. **Acts 2:1-4** - The day of Pentecost; disciples filled with the Holy Spirit
10. **Jeremiah 2:13** - Forsaking the fountain of living waters for broken cisterns
11. **John 7:37-39** - "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water"
12. **Luke 11:5-13** - Parable about persistence and asking for the Holy Spirit
13. **Romans 8:28-29** - All things work together for good; conformed to the image of the Son
14. **1 John 3:2** - "When he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is"

## Alluded to References:

15. **Exodus 12** - Passover lamb and blood over the doorpost
16. **John 1:29** - "Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world"
17. **Matthew 5:14** - "You are the light of the world"
18. **John 8:12** - "I am the light of the world"
19. **John 10:10** - "I have come that they might have life abundantly"
20. **Matthew 3:11 / Luke 3:16** - John baptizing with water; Jesus baptizing with Holy Spirit and fire
21. **Joel 2:28-29** - "I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh" (quoted by Peter at Pentecost)
22. **Acts 2:37-41** - 3,000 souls added at Pentecost
23. **Psalms 23:5** - "My cup runs over"
24. **1 Corinthians 3:16 / 1 Corinthians 6:19** - You are the temple of the Holy Spirit
25. **Ezekiel 47** - River flowing from the temple
26. **Psalms 32:9** - "Do not be like the horse and the mule"
27. **Matthew 13:8, 23** - Yielding 30-fold, 60-fold, 100-fold
28. **Revelation 1:4 / Revelation 4:5** - The sevenfold Spirit of God
29. **Exodus 25:31-40** - The seven-branched candlestick/lampstand in the tabernacle
30. **1 John 5:13** - "I write these things that you might know you have eternal life"

## Devotional – A Man Full of the Holy Spirit

### Day 1: The Spirit Without Measure

**Reading:** John 3:34; Isaiah 11:1-2

**Devotional:** Jesus carried the Spirit without measure—fully lit in every dimension of God's presence. The sevenfold Spirit rested upon Him: wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, and the fear of the Lord. This wasn't just for His benefit; it was a preview of what God intends for His people. When we see Jesus as He truly is—a man completely surrendered to the Father and fully empowered by the Spirit—something awakens within us. We recognize our own need and potential. Today, ask yourself: Am I settling for a measured portion of God's presence, or am I pursuing the fullness He offers? The same Spirit that rested on Jesus without limit is available to you. Don't be content with a trickle when God offers a flood.

### Day 2: Emptied to Be Filled

**Reading:** Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 4:1-2, 14

**Devotional:** Before Jesus could be filled with power for ministry, He had to empty Himself. He didn't grasp His divine privileges but took the form of a servant. This kenosis—this divine emptying—is the prerequisite for being filled. Jesus submitted to baptism, was led into the wilderness, and faced temptation while eating nothing for forty days. He went in filled for personal victory; He came out in power for public ministry. We want the power without the wilderness, the anointing without the surrender. But fullness is proportionate to emptiness. What are you clinging to that God is asking you to release? Your self-preservation, your reputation, your comfort? Being filled with the Holy Spirit isn't about adding God to your life—it's about letting Him displace everything else.

### Day 3: Power for Purpose

**Reading:** Acts 1:4-8; Acts 10:36-38

**Devotional:** Jesus commanded His disciples not to leave Jerusalem until they received power. Notice He didn't say "until you feel encouraged" or "until you have a nice experience." He said power—*dunamis*—explosive ability to accomplish what you cannot do in your own strength. This power wasn't for their personal enjoyment but for a global purpose: to be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth. God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power so He could heal the oppressed and do good. The same anointing is for you, but not just for you. Are you seeking the Holy Spirit's fullness for your comfort or for your commission? The Great Commission cannot be fulfilled without the Holy Spirit. Period. Today, ask God to fill you not just for blessing but for purpose.

## Day 4: Fountains, Not Cisterns

**Reading:** Jeremiah 2:13; John 7:37-39

**Devotional:** God describes Himself as a fountain of living water—constantly flowing, impossible to contain. Yet His people forsook Him to hew out broken cisterns that cannot hold water. We try to control God, to contain Him in our systems and structures, dispensing Him as we see fit. But Jesus promised that whoever believes in Him would have rivers—plural—of living water flowing from within. Not a cupful. Not just enough for personal needs. Rivers. Overflow. Abundance. Being filled with the Holy Spirit isn't about being topped off like a container; it's about becoming a fountain that continuously pours out to a thirsty world. Your cup is meant to run over. Are you a cistern trying to manage God, or a fountain releasing His presence? God wants to flow through you, not just to you.

## Day 5: Ask, Seek, Knock

**Reading:** Luke 11:5-13

**Devotional:** Jesus assures us that our Heavenly Father will not give us a stone when we ask for bread, a serpent when we ask for fish, or a scorpion when we ask for an egg. How much more will He give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him? This isn't a trick question or a dangerous request. God can be trusted by the sincere seeker. If you're hungry and thirsty for more of God, He will not give you something counterfeit. The Greek tense in "ask, seek, knock" implies continuous action—keep asking, keep seeking, keep knocking. God honors persistent hunger. Perhaps you've been prayed for before and nothing happened. Perhaps you've cooled off spiritually. Today is Pentecost—a day of fresh outpouring. Come like a child with simple faith. God is looking for hungry people who will move toward Him, not perfect people who have it all together.

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*Reflection Question for the Week: Am I living as a container trying to preserve what I have, or as a fountain overflowing with what God has given me?*