



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: The Promise of the Father

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print it to study on your own or use it in a group to experience transformation together.

Message Theme

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Prayer Focus

"Holy Spirit, I welcome You into every part of my life. Teach me to walk by faith, even when I can't see the whole picture. Help me trust Your timing and follow Your leading one step at a time. Just as You empowered Abraham to believe, strengthen me to obey and accept that Your promises will be fulfilled in my life. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Key Truths

We often think of salvation as simply our entry into Heaven, but from God's perspective, salvation brings Heaven to us.

When Jesus preached, He didn't just encourage people to get to Heaven one day, or even to simply learn about the Holy Spirit in their lives. He said the Holy Spirit is our close-by advocate and guide and He instructed us to be baptized in Him. Teaching about the Holy Spirit is valuable, but lives are transformed when His power is present and we actually engage with Him.

One reason we see more healings and miracles in other nations is the depth of commitment among believers. The baptism of the Holy Spirit doesn't just make Scripture come alive; it equips and empowers us to be witnesses for Jesus. We must break free from the mindset, *"If only I had been there when Jesus was alive and preaching."* The same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead still works through us. Jesus is actively building His body, the church, and our role is to exist in that body with its fullness.

When we walk by faith, God rarely reveals the whole picture. Instead, He leads us one step at a time, inviting us to trust Him. A powerful example of this is found in the life of Abraham, as told in the book of Genesis. God promised Abraham that he would become the father of many nations, even though, at the time, Abraham had no children and was well beyond the age of starting a family. God comes to Abraham years later and fulfills the promise, providing him and his wife with a son.

God tested Abraham's commitment to that covenant. For it to be fulfilled, God would one day give His own Son. In parallel, Abraham was willing to offer his own promised son, demonstrating his faith, commitment, and obedience. Abraham's story reminds us that faith is not about having all the answers, but trusting the One who

does. As we walk with God, step by step, He shapes our hearts, deepens our trust, and invites us into a greater story than we could write on our own.

Practical Application

So what does this mean for us today? It means making space in our daily lives for the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us through prayer, surrender, and bold obedience. Whether sharing the Gospel with a friend, praying for someone in need, or simply trusting God with a difficult decision, we partner with Him by taking the next faithful step. Just like Abraham, we don't need to see the whole picture—we only need to say yes to what God is asking of us today.

“Can I get to heaven without the baptism of the Holy Spirit?” Absolutely. But that's not the fullness of what God desires for you. Besides, if Heaven is a place we only get to one day, we've misunderstood the role of the Holy Spirit and Christ Himself. He longs to empower us, to fill us with His Spirit, to let Heaven into us so it can be let out and be a bold witness for Him. He's calling us to step beyond salvation into complete surrender—fully committed, fully equipped, and all in.

Reference Verses

- Matthew 3:11
- Acts 1:2-8
- John 20:21-22
- Revelations 12:11
- 2 Corinthians 5:15
- Hebrews 7:25, 11:19
- Genesis 12:1-3, 15:8-18, 22:1-18
- Galatians 3:8, 3:13-16

Declarations:

- I walk by faith, not sight, led and empowered by the Spirit who raised Christ from the dead.
(2 Corinthians 5:7, Romans 8:11)
- Just as God fulfilled His promise to Abraham, I believe He is faithful to complete what He has begun in me, by the power of His Spirit.
(Philippians 1:6, Hebrews 10:23)

What's Next?

This experience is a vital empowerment that Jesus commanded for every believer to live out their purpose. By following these steps, you can position yourself to receive and walk in this life-changing power.

Step 1: Understand and Desire the Promise

The transcript clearly emphasizes that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a distinct and crucial experience beyond salvation. Don't let misconceptions or lack of teaching hinder you. Understand that this is a command from Jesus for you to receive dunamis (explosive) power to be an effective witness. Cultivate a deep desire for this

spiritual infilling, recognizing it as a direct promise from God, rooted in the Abrahamic covenant, meant for you today. See it as an essential part of your inheritance, designed to empower your walk with God and your impact on the world.

Step 2: Ask and Receive with Expectation

Jesus is the baptizer in the Holy Spirit, and the promise is for "all who are afar off," meaning it's for you right now. Just as the disciples were told to "wait for the promise," position yourself to receive. This isn't about earning it through good works; it's a gift freely given by grace. Simply **ask Jesus to baptize you in the Holy Spirit**, believing that He will. Maintain an attitude of expectation, understanding that God desires to pour out this power on you, just as He did on the Day of Pentecost.

Step 3: Walk in Empowered Witness and Authority

Once you receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, it's not a one-time event to be stored away, but an ongoing source of power for daily living. Allow the Holy Spirit to bring the Bible alive in your life and cultivate a deeper concern for the lost. Step out in boldness, using the authority Jesus has given you to resist the enemy and declare God's truth. Your life becomes a powerful witness, demonstrating the Kingdom of God on earth. This empowerment is for "all generations" and is meant to glorify God through you.

Embracing the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a foundational step into a life of greater power and purpose. If you're seeking this empowering experience or need prayer in your journey, our team is here to stand with you. Please reach out via **WhatsApp** at 1.616.370.2404

Scripture References The Promise of the Father

Matthew 3:11 NKJV I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Acts 1:2-3 NKJV ...until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

Matthew 3:2 NKJV "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Acts 1:4-5 NKJV And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

John 20:21-22 NKJV So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:8 NKJV 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.”

Jude 21 NKJV ...keep yourselves in the love of God...

Acts 2:33 NKJV Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

Acts 2:37-39 NKJV Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

Hebrews 7:25 NKJV ...since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Matthew 16:18 NKJV I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 3:11 NKJV He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Genesis 12:1-3 NKJV Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Galatians 3:8 NKJV And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.”

Genesis 15:8-10 NKJV And he said, “Lord God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?” So He said to him, “Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.

Genesis 15:11 NKJV And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

Genesis 15:13-17 NKJV Then He said to Abram: “Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.” And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces.

Galatians 3:16 NKJV Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.

Genesis 22:1 NKJV Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

Genesis 22:2-4 NKJV Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.

Genesis 22:5 NKJV And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."

Hebrews 11:19 NKJV ...concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

Genesis 22:8 NKJV And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering."

Genesis 22:14 NKJV "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Genesis 22:15-17 NKJV Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore..."

Genesis 22:18 NKJV "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed..."

Genesis 22:15-18 MSG The angel of God spoke from Heaven a second time to Abraham: "I swear—God's sure word!—because you have gone through with this, and have not refused to give me your son, your dear, dear son, I'll bless you—oh, how I'll bless you! And I'll make sure that your children flourish—like stars in the sky! like sand on the beaches! And your descendants will defeat their enemies. All nations on Earth will find themselves blessed through your descendants because you obeyed me."

Hebrews 6:17-18 NKJV Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

Galatians 3:13-14 NKJV Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.