



Title: THE POWER & PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Main Scripture: Ephesians 5:18

**Jesus models the Holy Spirit's ministry.**

(Act 10:37-38, Lk 4:18, Jn 14:12)

**Learn to say YES to the prompts of the Spirit.**

(Jn 16:8, 3:3; Eph 5:18)

**Understand how we may be saying NO to the prompts of the Holy Spirit.**

(Judg 13:24-25, 14:5-6, 15:14; Eph 4:30-31; 1 Thes 5:19-20)

**How do I receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in my life?**

(Act 2:17-18, 39; 1 Cor 14:1; Lk 11:13; Jn 20:22; Act 5:32)

## How do I receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in my life?

**Desire.** You need to pursue Him and desire Him; being passive will not result in His fullness.

1 Corinthians 14:1, *Let love be your highest goal! But you should also desire the special abilities the Spirit gives—especially the ability to prophesy.*

**Ask.**

Luke 11:13, *“... if you sinful people 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.”*

**Receive.**

John 20:22, *... he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”*

**Obey.**

Acts 5:32, *“... the Holy Spirit ... is given ... to those who obey him.”*

---

*“It is the will of God that in unison with Christ, each believer should be sanctified thoroughly, thereby being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to God, receiving power for holy living and sacrificial and effective service toward the completion of Christ’s commission. This is accomplished through being filled with the Holy Spirit, which is both a distinct event and a progressive experience in the life of the believer.”*

Alliance Statement of Faith

## What does it mean to be born again?

1. Acknowledge that Jesus Christ is the only way to God and that you need Him in your life.

John 14:6, ... *"I [Jesus] am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."*

2. Be willing to turn from the things that God would not approve of as outlined in the Bible, and instead, decide to live according to His Word; honour Jesus Christ by how you live your life. (Repentance)

1 John 1:9, *If we confess our sins to him, he [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.*

3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave and accept His payment on your behalf.

John 3:16, *For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

4. Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come into your life. Expect the Holy Spirit to live with you, live in you, and give you power to live His way.

This prayer enables you to live eternally with Christ in heaven:

*Lord Jesus,*

*I know that I am a sinner and that I need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins and I trust in You alone for my salvation. I choose to turn away from the things in my life of which You don't approve and now surrender my life to You. I invite You to come and reign and rule in my heart and life and open my spirit. Establish Your presence within me. I want to know the power of the Holy Spirit working in me and live forever with You in the Kingdom of God. I choose to trust and follow You as my Lord and Saviour. Amen.*

## The Small Group Sermon Study

**Opening Prayer: *Father, in Jesus' name, through the Holy Spirit, come and speak to us, teach us and transform us as we read, discuss and reflect on Your word.***

*Read the key passage(s) of Scripture from the message and review the points from the sermon notes, then answer the following questions:*

1. What did you like or appreciate about this message? What was new or surprising to you?
2. What do we learn from this passage and message about God (Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit)? What do we learn about who He is, how He feels, what actions He takes, etc.?
3. What does this passage tell us about responding to God? What does living by faith look like in this passage?
4. What don't you understand or what other questions does this passage/sermon make you ponder?
5. What challenges are being brought to light in this sermon/passage? Are there any obstacles to which you can relate?
6. What attitudes, emotions, behaviors, or ideas are being exposed? How do they line up with what we know about God's character and His word?

### **Personal Reflection:**

***Silently re-read the key Scripture(s) from the message, asking the Holy Spirit to speak to you.***

- What do you need to surrender to Jesus? How will you respond to what God is showing you?
- What verse, phrase or word do you need to take with you this week? How will you act on what you've heard?

**Prayer: *Spend time praying for one another (that we would grow in our love for God and others, that we would be transformed by what God has revealed, that we would be alert and obedient to God, etc.).***