

Day 7: Spiritual Empowerment ~ Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Today, we are addressing the topic of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This is a controversial topic for some and divides the evangelical world. There are some that believe the baptism of the Spirit was only for the day of Pentecost and others, like myself, who believe it remains vital for today. Individuals like me are called Pentecostals.

Jesus instructed the disciples to return to Jerusalem and wait for the power from on high (Luke 24:49). This power is the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4, "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." What a powerful display of the glory of God and the Spirit which was sent to believers in place of Christ to walk daily with them as they demonstrated the Gospel to the known world.

There are additional scriptures that point out the baptizing of the Spirit and speaking in tongues. In your worksheet on the next page, you will be encouraged to read those scriptures.

There are multiple purposes to be filled with the Spirit. We are empowered to share Jesus with the world. Boldness and courage erupt within us as the Spirit drives us to tell people about the Savior of the world.

The filling of the Spirit also transforms our lives and we go from glory to glory. The purpose for today though is to recognize the importance and desire to be baptized with more of Him.

Day 7 Worksheet

Read Acts 2:1-41 Write your thoughts after reading these scriptures.

Read Acts 10:44-47 and Acts 19:1-7 Comment your thoughts regarding the spread of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues.

Some people believe the baptism of the Spirit is not needed for today. However, Jesus is the same today as He was in biblical times. Why do you think being empowered today is vital?

If you desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit for the first time, pray right now and ask the Lord to baptize you in His Spirit. Keep praying and asking until you receive. It could be instantaneous or take time. Keep praying for it. Write about your experience.

For those that have been baptized, ask to be filled daily. Life happens and we tend to leak out. We must remain full. What are two action steps to take today to remain full of the Spirit?
