

CHRIST FOR ALL NATIONS PRESENTS

# FULL FLAME

FILM SERIES



FACILITATOR'S  
**GUIDE**



# FULL FLAME

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## Dear Church Leaders Everywhere:



For over 30 years, we at *Christ for all Nations* have been holding Gospel Campaigns and Fire Conferences around the world. We have a two-pronged approach: a Gospel Campaign to reach the lost, and a Fire Conference to inspire and equip believers for the task of soul-winning. Each year our offices around the world receive many requests for us to hold Fire Conferences near them. However, I am only one person and can only accept a small percentage of the invitations.

Then one day ten years ago, God spoke to me and said, “I want a Fire Conference in every church.”

I said, “I haven’t a clue how that could happen.” The Lord spoke to me and said, “By film.” It was as if I was unwrapping a parcel. Layer after layer, the vision became clearer and clearer ... a Fire Conference on film! Today, the vision has become reality. The films have been completed. The materials are ready.

I want you to be one of the first to know of our earnest desire to get this film series into every church in the world. I believe there will be a revival of soul-winning throughout the world. I believe this film series will trigger an avalanche of soul-winning in every church, small group, and classroom. We want to set every captive free and lead the prodigals home. I thank you with all my heart for choosing to be a part of the *Full Flame Film Series*.

As a church leader, when you share this with other key leaders in your church, I promise you, there will be people who are more than willing to help launch this series in your church. God’s people are hungry to invest their time in things that will change history and the eternal effect of heaven. They are ready to help you.

We have prepared a few brief suggestions for those leading a group or a class, and I have also offered an informative message of encouragement early in the series. We believe that people will respond with enthusiasm and assurance when trying to facilitate a group for the first time.

Welcome to the *Full Flame Film Series*.

P.S. We would love to hear how each class is going, and whether we can do anything to improve or better serve you in this strategic project. E-mail us at: [info@fullflame.net](mailto:info@fullflame.net)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Buckle". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

## SPIRITUAL GOALS AND SUGGESTIONS

What we have learned from this project is exactly what it teaches. God has invited us to join him in doing something that we cannot do by ourselves!

You might be a professor at the greatest university in the world and be totally effective in leading the discussions. On the other hand, you may have never taught a class in your life but because of your intense prayer for each member and the warmth of your own heart, you can be part of a major change in people's lives, and consequently, the world.

Our suggestion is that you pray for this class as if your life depended upon it. Pray for every member – every day. Prepare your heart so this really comes from its depth, and not just from a streamed film series.

If some major breakthrough happens in your group, we would love to hear about it. If we have helped you in any way, let us know. Send your thoughts or requests to: **info@fullflame.net**. Don't forget to visit **www.fullflame.net** for news and updates. You should also check pages 24-27 for additional resources for your church.

## A FINAL WORD

It is our hope that great things will come about because of your involvement in this film series. As a blessing, we offer this prayer from Romans 16:25-27:

*Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him  
– to the only wise God be glory for ever through Jesus Christ! Amen.*

## IMPORTANT TIPS

### Guiding Your Group/Class

Use the enclosed “One Glance” Facilitator’s Guide for each of the eight gatherings you have planned. This uniquely designed “One Glance” Facilitator’s Guide includes a reproduction of the Discussion Guide along with additional reference material to direct your thinking and enhance discussion. Be sure to note the helpful ideas included on each lesson outline.

### The Premise

This is the purpose of this film topic and discussion. It is what makes this particular subject is so important.

### Timing

Every group/class has its own schedule and timing requirements. Each film averages 30 minutes (except *Lost at Sea*, which lasts only 12 minutes). So if you have 60 minutes of class, you can allow 30 minutes for everything else.

## Outline

A complete outline is ready for you, starting at the top left-hand corner and moving round to the bottom right.

## All in One

Remember, you do not have to keep the Discussion Guide or your Bible open as well. We have included the relevant parts in an all-in-one package for your convenience.

We have provided more information points than you will probably need. In your preparation, you must plan which questions you wish to discuss the most and what additional items in your Facilitator's Guide you wish to emphasize. The things to include are:

- Questions, with numbers 1 and 4 being the most important.
- Question number 4 is always the major question with the largest and most important image.
- The Gospel in the World™ contains important information from the part of the world where that particular topic was filmed.
- Reference Points are a collection of supporting Bible passages in case you are asked questions or wish to support a point with your group.

## The Gospel in Your World

This is an attempt to transfer what has been discussed to the personal world of each in your group/ class. We feel very strongly that we must together urge each person to try something each week that relates to each discussion. It can be an assignment or just an encouragement for them to apply some part of the topic. This is also a good way to start the following week's discussion.

Remember, it is important to begin promptly and to monitor your time closely to ensure that you complete the session. A strong beginning and a meaningful closing makes for the perfect lesson.

## Practical Suggestions

- Preview the presentation prior to your group/class session so that you will be familiar with the ideas presented in the film. Also, read through the enclosed guide and plan your discussion.
- Make sure you have the necessary electronic equipment ready to stream and play. Test for sound, lighting, and any pauses you wish.
- Arrange the seats for comfortable viewing and be prepared to rearrange the seats for your discussion. Keep in mind that it is best to sit in a circle or semicircle without a table dividing the group.
- You may wish to dim the lights slightly for optimal viewing, but do not make it so dark that participants are unable to take notes if they wish. Make sure you raise the level of the lights so that group members can see one another during the discussion phase.

*If we do not understand, or much less care to understand, the despair and gravity of being lost, we will never have any effect on the lost.*

God has infinite resources at His command to make his message of salvation known. He could write it the sky, make His voice heard to everyone at the same moment, or send angels to every people group in the world. Instead, He makes His appeal through us.

*We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.* 2 Corinthians 5:20

*For God, who said, Let light shine out of darkness, made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all surpassing power is from God and not from us.* 2 Corinthians 4:6-7

*Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

Colossians 4:5-6

In light of these passages, let's pray and then take a look at this short film "Lost at Sea."

## Opening Prayer

### Play Film 1 (12:00 min)

## Connect to Question 1

### Key Events and Dialogue

- The Coastguard's frustration that a ship, loaded with lifeboats, refuses to respond.
- The reactions of the people in the stateroom when the crewman announces the urgency of the rescue effort.
- The statement by the maitre d': "There will be no rescue operation. The whole purpose of being inside a boat such as this is that it protects you from the outside."
- The stateroom conversation about studying the manual regarding proper lifeboat procedures.

## Reference Points

Romans 10:14 *How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?*

1 Peter 3:18 *For Christ died for sins once for all, to bring you to God.*

Philippians 2:4 *Look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

## Connect to Question 3

Compare the responses from your discussion with the situations described in Revelation, chapters 2-3:



### The church in **Ephesus:**

*I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance ... but you have forsaken your first love.*  
Revelation 2:2 and 4

### The church in **Sardis:**

*I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die.*  
Revelation 3:1-2

### The church in **Philadelphia:**

*I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.*  
Revelation 3:8

### The church in **Laodicea:**

*So because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.*  
Revelation 3:16-17

## Notes

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## Connect to Large Picture

Go round to each person in your group and ask them to share who they related to most in this film.

## Connect to “The Gospel in Your World”

Read aloud “The Gospel in Your World” questions on the left. Encourage participants to reflect on their answers this week.

## Next Time

An exploration of God’s matchless message and our role as messengers of His love.

## Closing Prayer

# Film **2** The Matchless Message

*It is only when we honestly love the lost that they will be saved. No one can be saved without being loved.*

As Christians, we have been entrusted with God's message of reconciliation. Intriguingly, love is both the content of the message and the motivation to deliver it.

*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.*

John 3:16

*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*

John 13:34-35

*Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.*

John 15:13

The central question that we will consider today is this: How can we carry this message of love unless we are truly willing to love people?

## Opening Prayer

### Play Film 2 (29:35 min)

## Reference Points

1 John 3:1 *How great is the love the Father has lavished on us!*

Romans 5:8 *God demonstrates his own love for us.*

1 Corinthians 8:3 *The man who loves God is known by God.*

Ephesians 2:4 *Because of his great love for us, God ... made us alive with Christ.*

Ephesians 5:2 *Live a life of love.*

## Connect to Question 1

### Key Statements by Reinhard

- God needs us to see the crowd from the cross – and see them with His eyes.
- The church must not view people as “clients or customers,” but as “an opportunity to love.” How well does your church reflect this perspective?
- The big idea is not success. When we love, neither success nor failure matters.
- If we were measured by our love, what size would we be?

## Connect to Question 4

*For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

2 Corinthians 5:14-15





Note the word “compels” (from the Greek word “sunecho”). It is a strong word which carries a sense of urgency and control. In *The Message*, Eugene Peterson states it this way: “Christ’s love has moved me to such extremes.”

## Connect to Question 5

1 Corinthians 13:1 states: *If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.*

Do we make noise about our concerns for the lost, yet lack the deep and genuine love demonstrated by God through Christ’s sacrifice?

## Connect to large Picture

**Please note:** The film portrays the story of the “Prodigal Son” as a 10:10 feature without dialogue. Told from the perspective of the father, it centers on his never-failing love for his son. For the purposes of this discussion, it does not include the great celebration in honor of the son’s return nor the jealous response from the other son.

## Connect to “The Gospel in the World”

What would you say is the catalyst for this phenomenal growth? What role does persecution play in the spread of the gospel? What forms of opposition are most prevalent in our culture?

## Connect to “The Gospel in Your World”

As a parting thought, read aloud “The Gospel in Your World” challenge on the left. Encourage participants to report their experiences at the next meeting.

## Connect to “Our arms of love ...”

*We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.* 2 Corinthians 5:20

## Next Time

A look at Christ’s unpredictable choices for His disciples, what that means to us today, and how God equips us to do His will and his work.

## Closing Prayer

# Film **3** Who Jesus Calls and Equips The Art of the Impossible

*God has always enjoyed empowering ordinary people to ignite His extraordinary plans and purposes.*

Last week a challenge was issued to view people as “an opportunity for love.” Does anyone have an experience they would like to share?

Now let’s move into this week’s topic: Sometimes we forget the great favor shown to us by God. We are only dust, yet He breathed life into us, a creation process that is far more intimate than all that He simply spoke into existence.

*The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.* Genesis 2:7

As Jesus promised, we have been given the Holy Spirit to continue His work on earth.

*If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth.* John 14:15-17

As we will consider today, God’s favor has not been granted so that we will simply be saturated with His blessings. On the contrary He intends us to be used for His purposes.

Do we see ourselves as chosen instruments of God?

## Opening Prayer

### Play Film 3 (26:20 min)

## Key Statements by Reinhard

- As long as Jesus is number one, we are precious and He puts value in every zero.
- We are not much in ourselves – just fragile centers of consciousness.
- Obey in faith and we achieve the unachievable.
- The art of the impossible is the fundamental nature of Christianity.

## Connect to Question 1

If Jesus had chosen only the scholarly, elite, or morally upright, what message would have been conveyed? Do we find ourselves placing similar restrictions on who we would like to have in our church?

*He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.*  
Titus 3:5

*Then Peter began to speak: I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right.*  
Acts 10:34-35

## Connect to Question 3

Many today struggle with low self-esteem. They compare themselves to others and



come to the conclusion that they lack “what it takes.” Consider brainstorming scriptures that refute this damaging belief, such as:

*Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?*

Matthew 6:26

*Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.*

John 7:38

## Connect to Question 4

What experiences can you draw upon to build the confidence to know that God can accomplish more through you than you can by relying on your own talents and resources?

*I can do everything through him who gives me strength.*

Philippians 4:13

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

Ephesians 3:20-21

## Reference Points

Luke 6:12 *Spent the night in praying to God.*

Luke 9:55 *You do not know what manner of spirit you are of.*

Luke 22:42 *Not my will, but yours be done.*

1 Samuel 16:7 *Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.*

## Connect to “The Gospel in the World”

It has been suggested that one of the reasons for the great increase in Christianity in Brazil is that the church is grafting people into a lifestyle of faith with a loving community of close, ongoing relationships. How well does your church go beyond encouraging attendance to engender a deep sense of fellowship?

## Connect to “The Gospel in Your World”

Read aloud “The Gospel in Your World” section and ask participants to spend a few minutes considering their responses.

## Next Time

We will consider the struggle between faith and fear, and explore the amazing things that occur when God’s love and power flow through us.

## Closing Prayer

# Film **4** How I Learned Faith How to Conquer Fear

**Great faith is not reserved for the spiritual elite. Since biblical times, God has empowered those who will act on His Word through simple obedience.**

Jesus' disciples were eye witnesses as He healed the sick, raised the dead, fed thousands, and manifested His authority in a number of other ways. Despite all this, their faith sometimes seemed to grow weak.

During a raging storm:

*The disciples went and woke him, saying, Lord, save us! We're going to drown! He replied, You of little faith, why are you so afraid? ... The men were amazed and asked, What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him! Matthew 8:25-27*

2,000 years later, we face the challenge of believing in Christ without having had the opportunity to walk alongside Him as He travelled about. Jesus conceded that this might pose a greater challenge. He told His disciples:

*Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. John 20:29*

Today we explore how we can strengthen our faith in the face of fear.

## Opening Prayer

### Play Film 4 (32:45 min)

## Reference Points

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 *My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.*

Deuteronomy 5:32 *Do not turn aside to the right or to the left.*

Romans 10:17 *Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.*

Romans 1:17 *The righteous will live by faith.*

## Key Statements by Reinhard

- Faith is the victory – faith that comes by the Word of God. Christians have wanted that ever since – faith in bulk! They wanted big faith, but Jesus spoke of the smallest thing they knew.
- The higher our resistance and disobedience to the Word, the lower the operational power of God.
- Christianity is a power religion, or it is nothing at all.

## Connect to Question 1

Throughout the New Testament, we read of instances where the faith of followers was deepened because of the events in their lives.

*Your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.* 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4



*I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong – that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.* Romans 1:11-12

### Connect to Question 3

The phrase *do not be afraid* (or *fear not*) is the phrase most often used in the Bible, appearing more than 360 times. In many cases, it is spoken as a prelude to a significant act of God:

- Joshua, prior to attacking various nations in Canaan (Joshua 8:1, 10:8, 11:6).
- Jehoshaphat, prior to battling Moab and Ammon (2 Chronicles 20:15).
- Mary, just before she became pregnant (Luke 1:30).
- Joseph, when told that Mary was pregnant (Matthew 1:20).
- Paul, when encouraged to preach in Corinth (Acts 18:9).

When have you had to overcome fear to take a significant step of faith?

### Connect to Question 4

Sometimes we may think that it is our responsibility to make something happen for God. The focus shifts from “what might God do?” to “what can I do?” On our own, we might feel overwhelmed. But God gives us promises to prepare us:

*He [God] gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.* Isaiah 40:29

*For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.*

2 Timothy 1:7

Others might be inclined to rely on their own strength rather than humbly turning to God for help.

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.* John 15:5-8

*It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to stand on the heights.* Psalm 18:32-33

### Connect to “The Gospel in Your World”

Read aloud “The Gospel in Your World,” and remind everyone to set aside some time this week to consider how they would answer the question.

### Next Time

A look at what it means to have God's Holy Spirit present in our lives as a demonstration of his power.

### Closing Prayer

# Film **5** Fire: The Ensign of the Gospel Relying on the Anointing

***When Jesus left the earth after His resurrection, He did not desert us and wish us luck! On the contrary, He sent the Holy Spirit to give us power, courage, strength, and boldness to do what we could not do on our own.***

Before we turn our attention to this week's film, does anyone have anything they want to say about our discussion last week concerning the tension between faith and fear? As described in the "The Gospel in Your World" section, were there opportunities for you to use your faith "to transfer power to where it was needed?" Few topics cause more division in the church today than a discussion of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It seems a jolting paradox when we consider how Jesus described the role of the Holy Spirit in the Gospel of John:

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.* John 14:16-17

*When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment.* John 16:8

*But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what*

*he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.* John 16:13-14

Let's take a closer look at the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives by watching this next film.

## Opening Prayer

### Play Film 5 (26:39 min)

## Reference Points

Joel 2:28 *And afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.*

2 Timothy 1:6 *Fan into flame the gift of God.*

1 Corinthians 9:16 *How terrible it will be for me if I do not preach the Good News!*

Lamentations 3:22 *Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed.*

## Connect to Question 1

Fire is described as a spiritual tool in the following passages:

*They saw something that looked like tongues of fire. The flames separated and settled on each of them.* Acts 2:3

*Do not put out the Spirit's fire.*

1 Thessalonians 5:19

*In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire."*

Hebrews 1:7



*May the God of peace ... equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ.* Hebrews 13:20-21

## Connect to Question 2

The word anointing comes from the Greek word “chrisma,” which is historically associated with the pouring of oil as a form of blessing. Kings were anointed as a sign of confirmation that they were receiving authority.

*As for you, the anointing you received from [the Holy One] remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit – just as it has taught you, remain in him.*

1 John 2:27

## Connect to Question 4

God’s gift of the Holy Spirit is not intended for passive acceptance, locked away for safe-keeping. It is meant to invigorate and empower us to be “about our Father’s work.”

*I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*

Ephesians 3:16-19

## Connect to “The Gospel in the World”

In the early part of the 1900s, a major effort was carried out to send the gospel to of every person in Japan. For a time Christianity spread, but in the wake of World War II, it fell from favor and Japan quickly gained a reputation as a major player in the world marketplace.

## Connect to “The Gospel in Your World”

Read aloud “The Gospel in Your World,” and ask people to share their experiences your next meeting.

## Connect to Call-out

In what ways do you see your church being called into action. What ministries or outreaches seem to be most effective in making the gospel known in your community?

## Next Time

Our role in the miraculous work of God.

## Closing Prayer

# Film **6** Living in the Miraculous The Power of Proclamation

*While we excel in understanding the natural, God invites us to move out of our limitations and understand that He is bigger than the religious boxes we have built.*

Last time's "The Gospel in Your World" challenge asked you to imagine how the power of the Holy Spirit might work through you for Kingdom purposes. Does anyone have any thoughts they would like to share? When we think of the miraculous, our thoughts lean toward great feats of the unexplainable. We forget that it is no less a miracle when God does His transforming work in the life of a person, turning doubt into faith, and fear into confidence in the Lord.

Consider the miracle of God's Word as it goes forth:

*So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11*

As we carry His matchless message of love, we do our part in reconciling the world to Him. As Paul writes:

*I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's*

*fellow-workers; you are God's field, God's building. 1 Corinthians 3:6-9*

Let's consider what it means to live in the miraculous as we proclaim the good news.

## Opening Prayer

### Play Film 6 (23:26 min)

## Connect to Question 1

### Key Statements by Reinhard

- When you preach the gospel, the gospel happens.
- The trouble that comes when God puts us where He wants us is a miracle in the making.
- There has never been a revival that has come any other way than by someone acting.
- The Spirit of God is not a flickering uncertainty in our lives, He abides with us.
- God is with you as much as He is with anyone else.
- Four Principles:
  1. Jesus can be what we preach him to be.
  2. God's sovereign will is working through us.
  3. God works according to the measure of the scale of faith we employ.
  4. God never casts a shadow because He is always at the center.





## Reference Points

Matthew 14:30 *But when [Peter] saw the wind, he was afraid and beginning to sink, cried out, Lord, save me!*

Psalm 118:17 *I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.*

Matthew 19:26 *With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.*

Haggai 1:5 and 8 *The Lord Almighty says: Give careful thought to your ways ... build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored.*

## Connect to Question 2

Consider just a few of the faith-filled acts of the Apostles:

*The believers studied what the apostles taught. They shared life together. They broke bread and ate together. And they prayed. Everyone felt that God was near. The apostles did many wonders and miraculous signs. All the believers were together. They shared everything they had. They sold what they owned. They gave each other everything they needed. Every day they met together in the temple courtyard. In their homes they broke bread and ate together. Their hearts were glad and honest and true. They praised God. They were respected by all the people. Every day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47*

## Connect to Question 4

We have no authority to tell God or His Spirit how to act. Job's reply to God's questioning:

*I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted.* Job 42:2

*Jesus' response to Nicodemus: The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.* John 3:8

Yet we are invited to participate in His process.

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.* Ephesians 2:8-10

*We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.* 2 Corinthians 5:20

## Connect to "The Gospel in Your World"

Read aloud "The Gospel in Your World" and encourage your group to think with great freedom as they envision their responses.

## Next Time

The necessity of a humble heart and passionate prayer in sharing the gospel.

## Closing Prayer

# Film 7 The Man is the Message The Revival Detonator

*As Christians, we are to be the light of the world. Our confidence, however, cannot rest in our own capabilities or achievements. A life of constant prayer and intercession will take our eyes off ourselves and create a dependency on the Lord.*

One of the primary ways that God directs His energy is through our humble prayers. We read:

*God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. James 4:6*

*Humility, however, is not to be confused with a sense of shame and worthlessness because: You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9*

How do we maintain this balance as we urgently intercede for the lost? That is the core of today's discussion.

## Opening Prayer

### Play Film 7 (30:56 min)

In 2 Samuel 3:22 -27, we are presented with a story of treachery that draws to a climax as Abner is murdered by Joab just outside

the gate of a city of refuge. In our pursuit of God's plan, Satan is always looking for ways to distract, defeat, and destroy us. In what ways do you see Satan at work?

## Reference Points

Colossians 2:18 *Do not let anyone who delights in false humility ... disqualify you for the prize.*

Matthew 6:1 *Be careful not to do your "acts of righteousness" before men, to be seen by them.*

Matthew 5:5 *Blessed are the meek for they will inherit the earth.*

John 15:15 *I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.*

## Connect to Question 3

Intercession means, "To meet with one party on behalf of another."

*Then Samuel said, Assemble all Israel at Mizpah and I will intercede with the LORD for you.*  
1 Samuel 7:5

*In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.*  
Romans 8:26-27



*Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.*  
Hebrews 7:25

A true intercessor must ...

- Be in good standing with both parties.
- Be moved by feelings of concern.
- Have faith.
- Delight in praise and worship.

## Connect to Question 4

What questions lurking in our minds pose barriers to impassioned intercessory prayer? These scriptures provide insight into God's heart.

Does God really hear us?

*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.*  
1 John 5:14

Does He want us to ask?

*And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.*  
Matthew 6:7-8

Does He have our best interests at heart?

*If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!*  
Matthew 7:11

Will He respond to our requests?

*And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him.*  
1 John 5:15

## Connect With Large Photo

Consider Reinhard's comments about prayer:

- To be prayerless means to be defenseless.
- Faith is assurance of the changeless character of God's goodness, believing He is faithful to what he says he is.
- Pray on, and leave matters in God's hands to do whatever He knows is best.

## Connect to "The Gospel in Your World"

Read aloud "The Gospel in Your World," emphasizing an openness for rich interaction with the Holy Spirit instead of simply listing the people for whom the group members choose to pray.

## Next Time

To bring our study to an end, we will consider principles for success in taking God's message of redemption to the world.

## Closing Prayer

# Film **8** Principles for Success

*God's desire is to ignite a global fire in the coming days that will create a population explosion in Heaven. He invites us to be a part of it. We cannot be neutral.*

This session is intended as both a summary of the past seven films and a catalyst for the future. Although this discussion should provide a sense of closure, it is more important that it sets the stage for ushering in a new era of evangelism in our lives.

It has been said that sharing the gospel is one beggar telling another where to find bread. Although Ephesians 4:11 states that some are especially gifted as evangelists, all believers are instructed to be messengers of the good news:

*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.*  
1 Peter 3:15

Use this session as a review as well as a time of commissioning participants to be God's messengers within their sphere of influence.

## Opening Prayer

## Discussion Question

In what ways have your perspectives changed in the course of this journey?

## Play Film 8 (31:21 min)

The format of Film 8 differs from the previous films. Be sure to inform your group that after Reinhard shares these **8 principles**, he presents a brief special message to the group. Following this message, he will pray a special commissioning prayer (he suggests that some may wish to kneel). After that, the music will continue for 1-2 minutes, which should be time for further meditation. When the vocalist comes to the end of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," the film is about to end. Be sure to stop it prior to its return to the main menu. We suggest that you lead in a prayer right away.

## 8 Principles

### 1. Claim God's Promises

Do what the apostles did; you will receive what the apostles received.

*For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.*

2 Corinthians 1:20-22

### 2. God Is With You

*Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

Matthew 28:20

Why beg God to do what He already said He would do? It does not depend on us; God is faithful.



### 3. Boldness is a Quality of Righteousness

*When I am afraid, I will trust in you.*

Psalm 56:3

*Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.*

Acts 4:29

### 4. Meditate on God's Word

*Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.*

Joshua 1:7

There is a difference between knowing the Bible and letting it speak to us.

### 5. Churches That Act Will Grow

*I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.*

2 Corinthians 6:2

### 6. Wisdom

Our manners matter. Small things speak loudly. People are easily put off if we are bombastic, egotistical, critical, arrogant, or pompous.

### 7. Enduring Hardship Glorifies the Lord

*Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and*

*in the left; through glory and dishonour, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.*

2 Corinthians 6:4-10

Perseverance is active. It refuses to be daunted.

*I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me.*

Acts 20:23

The ploughman who looks back ploughs a crooked furrow.

### 8. Greatness

*For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power*

1 Corinthians 4:20

Reinhard's message to us

Reinhard's commissioning prayer  
(kneeling will be suggested)

Important: Stop the film

Facilitator prays when DVD ends

## Open discussion / sharing

## Suggested group prayer time

## Closing Prayer

# The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The Bible does not deal with problems and explanations. It cuts the Gordian knot with the sword of experience. Baptism in the Spirit is real. In sacramental ritual a priest may pronounce that a candidate receives the Holy Spirit, but that is not quite the same as the wind, fire, and tongues of Acts, Chapter 2!

At the beginning of the last century, when the first Spirit-baptized Christians came on the scene and were opposed, a new theory was invented: that the whole church was baptized in the Spirit on the day of Pentecost, once for all and forever. That “baptism” theory was never a burning reality in anybody’s life. In Bible times, disciples continued to be baptized in the Spirit after Pentecost – in Samaria, Ephesus, and Caesarea.

Baptism in the Holy Spirit is immersion in the Spirit. Since the Spirit is the operating power of God, it should be noticeable if we have been immersed in Him! It takes rare faith (or credulity) to believe blessings that one receives are never felt and leave no traceable result. But that is the doctrine held by many, that when we first turn to Christ and Jesus saves us, all is received in a comprehensive, once-and-for-all spiritual package. The problem is how or why the Third Person came onto the scene later. The fact of the matter is that that is what happens, and our theology has to fit the fact.

Holy Spirit baptism identifies Jesus. John the Baptist was sent to announce the Coming One, but nobody knew who John was talking about. He had to describe Him or the people would not have been able to recognize Him. He said, *It is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit* (John 1:33). His distinguishing feature would be that He would baptize in the Spirit. It distinguishes nobody else. Jesus alone is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit and fire. Nobody else can do it, give it, or impart it. It is God’s own right and prerogative. The reason is that the baptism is not merely incoming power, but God Himself, the Holy Spirit. Nobody can give God as if He were a commodity.

The baptizer in the Spirit – that is Jesus. If the Church preaches Christ at all, that is who He is, forever. A Jesus who does not baptize in the Holy Spirit and fire is not truly the Bible Jesus. Nobody has the right to preach any Christ other than the Bible Christ who baptizes in the Holy Spirit and He is *the same yesterday and today and for ever* (Hebrews 13:8). He is the God of faithfulness, always true to Himself, to us and to His promise.

Something positive is happening to people today. It carries every Bible mark of what Jesus promised. There is only one explanation, that He is keeping His Word, baptizing in the Holy Spirit. There is no argument against it. It is happening.

We ourselves are witnesses, giving evidence of Jesus as we declare, “He saved me, baptized me, and healed me! He is with me.”

The apostles who were dragged before the arrogant authorities bore the impression of the Holy Spirit. Their unshakeable witness and confidence triggered astonishment.

The Spirit is not just a surge within believers' souls, but may show in body language, personality, ways, voice, eyes, in the fruit of the Spirit, and attitudes people never suspect of themselves. Nothing is more off-putting than the put-on pose of a Holy Joe.

Jesus intends His disciples to be witnesses, not controversialists. They should be witnesses of His resurrection. This message was vital, life changing, and life-giving. Presented casually, coolly, in a "believe it, if you like manner," it would do nothing. It had to be preached as a glorious and vital fact, by people with some kind of a passion, not dispassionately, but by witnesses obviously electrified by what they announced, examples of what they preached – very much alive. Jesus told them, *Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my father promised, which you have heard me to speak about. In a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. You will receive power, when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses.* (Acts 1:4-5 and 8) Jesus made a great deal of that someone; the Holy Spirit.

What the Spirit of the Lord would do would be their making, turning them into torches. He would be, and still is, the key to effective witnessing. Jesus said, *Apart from me you can do nothing* (John 15:5); we have to remain in the vine, deriving life from Him. The life of the Spirit is the secret of new disciples. We can do a great deal without the Holy Spirit, but nothing of any lasting effect. That is the measure of the importance of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

*Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised* (Acts 1:4). Christ ascended to heaven and asked the Father to fulfill His promise, the sending of the Holy Spirit, and within 10 days He had come. The Spirit did not come quietly. He announced His arrival through the 120. He gave utterance to it through the assembled believers in tongues and prophecy. For the disciples and apostles this was their greatest day. The Holy Spirit is the love Spirit of Father and Son: *God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us* (Romans 5:5). That love began to move the believers and operate through them. What they became was what the Spirit made them. This baptism was for them as individuals, not "for the whole church." Others, like the household of Cornelius received the Spirit for themselves. No word in the New Testament suggests that we do not need what the apostles had, or that what they had could be only for them.

On the contrary, Peter's message was clear: *You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call* (Acts 2:38-39).

The disciples needed to be so endued and to preach the gospel with the Holy Spirit and with manifestation of the Almighty. Are we better than them, able to carry on God's work without the empowerment they had? We surely need everything that God can give us, and the world needs people equipped like that.

Today some half billion or more on earth know it and millions enjoy it. It is startling to realize that Jesus actually left this world so that the Holy Spirit could come. *Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you* (John 16:7). His coming to us is mysterious but real.

After the resurrection, the disciples, shaken and scared, hiding away for fear of what might happen to them, certainly needed that baptism and to be endowed with power – and so do we. And God will give us what we need: *God will meet all our needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus* (Philippians 4:19). No change in the world makes the power of the Spirit unnecessary. We have no alternative to the power of the Spirit, no method, manner, scheme, or approach. The Spirit must do the work. The world still needs saving, still needs convincing, and it is impossible without the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is not a sense of awe floating around old religious property. If the Spirit is to be manifested it is through Spirit-filled people. The message to believers is: *Be filled with the Spirit* (Ephesians 5:18). We would not need to be told to be filled if we could live without being filled. Jesus said we should ask, seek, and knock for God gives the Spirit to people who ask (Luke 11:9-13). That does not mean a casual moment of asking, but being open to God at all times – askers, seekers, knockers. God will acknowledge those who stand ready for the blessing. He has given us His Word, and we must grasp His promise.

To be filled we do what Jesus said – ask. That does not mean to make a leisurely request; asking, knocking, and seeking is a lifestyle. The Holy Spirit comes when He wants to those who are ready. We do not obtain the Holy Spirit like chocolate out of a machine, pull the lever and it is there. On the other hand, He does not mean us to ask forever, always seeking but never finding. *He who seeks finds* (Luke 11:10) and they know when they have found what they were seeking. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is received by faith, but the evidence is signs following.

Do all who receive the Holy Spirit speak in tongues? The general answer is a firm, “yes” – or would be, if everything in this world was perfect. God has no rules. What He does is what He can do, according to our faith. To say people can be baptized without tongues would not fit the New Testament very comfortably because every instance shows quite clearly that they all spoke in tongues. If people have absorbed fears about tongues, have had confused teaching, or for another, possibly subconscious, reason, the Spirit can be quenched, preventing Him from doing everything He normally would, that is to give signs. Some have faith for the Holy Spirit but not for tongues, so they are given in accordance with their faith. The crucial question for them is how do they know that they have been Spirit-filled without the evidence of being able to speak in tongues? It is so vital that we know we are Spirit-baptized if we are to go out and face the challenge of the godless world. With that knowledge we can dare to go forth and know He is with us. The disciples had that assurance. Can we do without it? They knew the Spirit was with them and therefore: *The disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord*



*worked with and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it* (Mark 16:20). Holy Spirit ministry is attested by signs – if we believe. Utterance in tongues does not come by trying. You don't "learn" how to speak in tongues. There is no technique, method, or even ministry. The Spirit is not given at the will of man, but is a sovereign act of God. This gift is not a talent, but God Himself, the Spirit, not a power, or fire, but Him. He is too awesome to be handled like plastic, dished out by glib over-sure arrogance. However, we can assist one another in prayer and by the laying on of hands as the apostles did in Samaria and Paul in Ephesus. Our attitude is to be humble and prepared. That is the lesson of Peter in the household of Cornelius – while he was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell on them all.

If there are Christians in your church fellowship or cell group who have not been baptized in the Holy Spirit, I would like to encourage you and challenge you, once you have seen film number 8, to pray together and for one another to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Do not be shy about laying hands on each other.

Remember, it is not just power that enters our lives, but God Almighty in the person of the Holy Spirit. Yield to Him afresh in prayer and expect God to fulfill His promise.

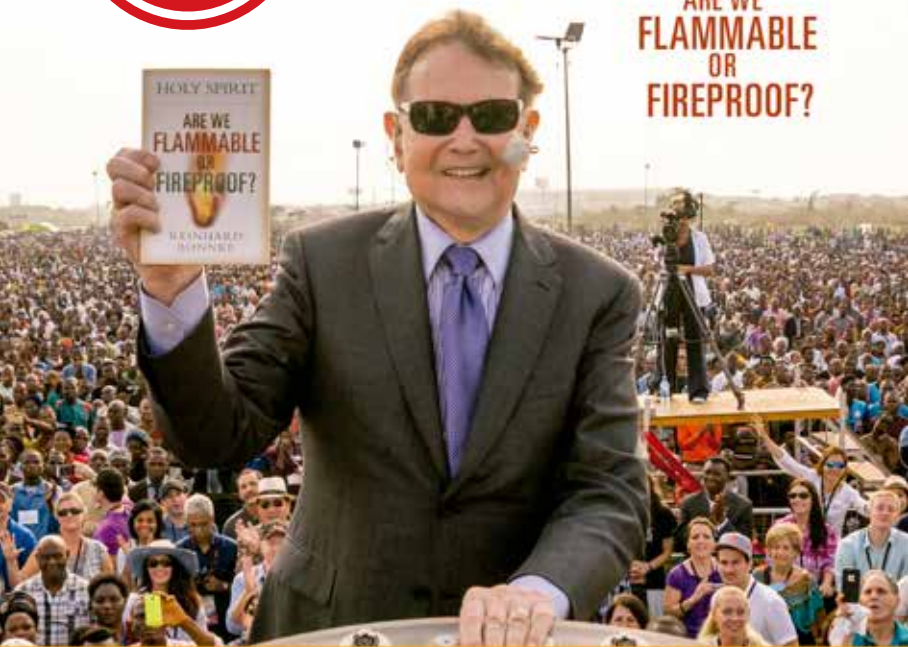
The fire falls today just as it did on the believers in Acts 2. For tongues of fire to be lit on the head of every born-again Christian is still the Father's will today.

*God bless you!*



# HOLY SPIRIT

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