

EMPOWERED FOR THE CALL

*DID YOU  
RECEIVE  
THE HOLY  
SPIRIT?*

PART 5



**Pastor Mason Phillips | May 24, 2026**

**[WATCH THE SERMON HERE](#)**

## **Day 1: The Promise of Power**

**Devotional:** Before Jesus ascended, He gave His disciples one critical instruction: wait for the Holy Spirit. These men had walked with Jesus daily, witnessed miracles, and learned directly from Him—yet Jesus said they still needed something more. They needed power from on high. The Christian life was never designed to be lived in human strength alone. God doesn't call us to independence but to complete dependence on His Spirit. Just as the disciples couldn't fulfill their mission without the Holy Spirit, neither can we. The Father eagerly waits to give this gift to those who ask. Today, examine your life: Are you trying to live the Christian life in your own strength, or are you daily surrendering to the Spirit's power?

## **Reading:**

*Acts 1:4-8 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.”*

*Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 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.”*

*Luke 11:9-13 NKJV*

*“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish?*

*“Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, 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!”*

**Reflection:** Have I been trying to live the Christian life in my own strength rather than God's power?

## **Day 2: Transformation Through the Spirit**

**Devotional:** Peter's transformation is stunning. The same man who denied Jesus and cursed at a young girl became the bold preacher who confronted thousands on Pentecost. What changed? The Holy Spirit came upon him. This wasn't about Peter trying harder or becoming more disciplined—it was supernatural transformation.

The Spirit doesn't just modify our behavior; He changes our nature from the inside out. Where you see weakness, God sees potential for His power to be displayed. Your failures don't disqualify you; they position you to experience God's transforming grace. The question isn't whether you're capable enough, but whether you're willing to surrender fully to the Spirit's work within you. Let God transform you into another person.

### **Reading:**

*Acts 2:1-41 NKJV*

*When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

*And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?*

*"Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs— we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could his mean?" Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."*

*But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:*

*'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,*

*That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;  
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
Your young men shall see visions,  
Your old men shall dream dreams.  
And on My menservants and on My maidservants  
I will pour out My Spirit in those days;  
And they shall prophesy.  
I will show wonders in heaven above  
And signs in the earth beneath:  
Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.  
The sun shall be turned into darkness,  
And the moon into blood,  
Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.  
And it shall come to pass  
That whoever calls on the name of the Lord  
Shall be saved.'*

*“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—*

*“Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.*

*“For David says concerning Him:  
‘Foresaw the Lord always before my face,  
For He is at my right hands, that I may not be shaken.  
Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad;  
Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.  
For You will not leave my soul in Hades,  
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.*

*You have made known to me the ways of life;  
You will make me full of joy in Your presence.'*

*“Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.*

*“This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 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.*

*For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:*

*‘The Lord said to my Lord,  
Sit at My right hand,  
Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.’”*

*“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” 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. And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.”*

*Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.*

*2 Corinthians 3:17-18 NKJV*

*Now the Lord is the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

**Reflection:** What areas of my life need the Holy Spirit's transforming work?

### **Day 3: Continually Filled**

**Devotional:** "Be filled with the Spirit" is written in present continuous tense—keep being filled, again and again. The Christian life isn't about one dramatic experience that carries you forever; it's about daily, moment-by-moment surrender. Think of it like breathing: you don't breathe once and consider yourself good for life. You need fresh air constantly. Similarly, we need fresh infilling of God's Spirit daily. Jesus promised that those who believe would have rivers of living water flowing from within—not stagnant pools, but flowing rivers. This requires staying connected to the Source. When you run on your own power, you burn out. When you stay filled with the Spirit, you overflow with life. Today, don't just remember past encounters with God—come to Him fresh, asking to be filled again right now.

#### **Reading:**

*Ephesians 5:18 NKJV*

*And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,*

*John 7:37-39 NKJV*

*On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

**Reflection:** Am I daily surrendering to the Spirit's leadership, or am I still trying to maintain control?

### **Day 4: Led by the Spirit, Not the Flesh**

**Devotional:** There's a constant tension between flesh and Spirit. Your flesh wants control, independence, and self-sufficiency. The Spirit calls you to surrender, dependence, and trust. Many Christians live frustrated because they're trying to

produce spiritual fruit through fleshly effort. You cannot manufacture love, joy, peace, or patience through willpower alone. These are fruits of the Spirit, not achievements of the flesh. The key is learning to walk by the Spirit—allowing Him to lead, direct, and empower you moment by moment. This means releasing control, handing God the keys to your life, and trusting Him to drive. When you stop striving and start surrendering, you'll discover the abundant life Jesus promised. Let the Spirit lead today in every decision, conversation, and challenge.

### **Reading:**

*Romans 8:5-14 NKJV*

*For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

*But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

*Therefore, brethren, we are debtors— not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*

*Galatians 5:16-25 NKJV*

*I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and. These are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions,*

*heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

**Reflection:** When was the last time I specifically asked God to fill me fresh with His Holy Spirit?

## **Day 5: Ask, Seek, Knock**

**Devotional:** God doesn't force the Holy Spirit upon anyone; He responds to faith. Jesus taught us to ask, seek, and knock—active verbs that require intentionality. The Father delights to give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. Notice Paul's first question to the Ephesian disciples: "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" This wasn't optional; it was essential. Salvation seals you with the Spirit, but the baptism and infilling of the Spirit empowers you for victorious living. If you've never specifically asked God to fill you with His Spirit, today is your day. Don't let fear, confusion, or past experiences hold you back. God gives only good gifts. Come to Him with childlike faith, ask for the Holy Spirit, and trust that your Heavenly Father will answer. Your Christian life was meant to be lived in supernatural power—receive it today.

### **Reading:**

*Luke 11:9-13 NKJV*

*“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,*

*how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those whose Him!”*

*Acts 19:1-7 NKJV*

*And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.”*

*Then Paul said to them, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. Now the men were about twelve in all.*

**Reflection:** What would change in my life if I truly believed that God's power is available to me every moment?