

Bible Study #3

POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Begin memorizing Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you; and you shall be witnesses to Me.”

Acts 1:4-5 - “And beings assembled together with them, He commanded them no 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.”

Jesus did not want His disciples to immediately begin telling others about Him. He told them to wait for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, because He knew the POWER they were to receive was essential for the task ahead of them. In this lesson you should learn:

- A. Who the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for.
- B. What the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for.
- C. How to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

BAPTISM means to be immersed or dipped into something.

So that you will not become confused, you need to know that there are several terms which refer to “The Baptism of the Holy Spirit,” and they all mean the same thing.

- Acts 2:4 - “Filled with the Holy Spirit”
- Acts 11:15 - “Holy Spirit fell (came) on them”
- Acts 2:33 - “The Promise of the Holy Spirit”
- Luke 24:49 - “The Promise of my Father”
- Acts 2:38 - “The Gift of the Holy Spirit”

1. Who does the Bible say the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for?
Acts 2:38-39 For as many as the Lord our God calls to Himself

Has God called you to salvation? Yes.

Is the promise for you? Yes.

In **John 14:16-17**, Jesus told His disciples that the Spirit had been WITH them and would soon be IN them. The Spirit came inside them in **John 20:22**. After Jesus had been resurrected, He spoke to them and said "Receive the Holy Spirit." Before we were saved, the Holy Spirit is WITH us, calling us to Jesus. When we are born again, the Spirit comes INSIDE us to teach and guide us. All true believers have the Holy Spirit living inside them. But Jesus went on to tell His disciples in **Acts 1:8** that the Spirit would also be ON or UPON them.

2. What did Jesus tell His disciples they would receive when the Holy Spirit came down on them?
Acts 1:8 They would receive power.

The Greek word for **POWER** is "dunamis," where we get our words for "dynamite" and "dynamic." It is also translated strength, ability, authority and might.

Jesus knows our weaknesses and that we do not have the strength we need to continually follow Him or do things for Him, so He supplies us with the **POWER** (dunamis) we need. We do not have to do it on our own!

3. The Father strengthens us through the power of His Spirit in our inner being for what purpose?
Ephesians 3:16-17 According to the riches of His glory.
4. After the disciples received this power, what would it give them the ability to be?
Acts 1:8 They would have the ability to be God's witnesses.

To be a **WITNESS** means to testify that something is true. The disciples went out testifying that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God and Savior of the world.

5. When Peter and John were released from jail, they gathered together and prayed. What did they pray for the Lord to enable them to do?
Acts 4:29 To be able to speak the Word of God with all confidence
6. The Lord answered Peter and John's prayer almost immediately. What did the Lord do to give them the boldness they asked for?
Acts 4:31 God filled them with the Holy Spirit
7. When Saul (later his name was changed to Paul) was filled with the Holy Spirit, what did he begin doing right away?
Acts 9:17,20 He immediately began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues.

Another aspect of Baptism of the Holy Spirit is that the Holy Spirit wants to give each of us “spiritual gifts” or supernatural abilities to edify ourselves and other believers.

EDIFY means to build up or strengthen.

The Bible refers to believers as the “body of Christ.” Jesus is the head and each of us is given a gift (or gifts) that empower us to function as a part of that body.

8. Who decides which spiritual gifts each of us will have in the body of Christ?
1 Corinthians 12:18 God does.
9. What are some of the gifts that the Spirit gives to different parts of the body?
1 Corinthians 12:8-10 The word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, the effecting of miracles, prophecy, the distinguishing of spirits, various kinds of tongues, and the interpretation of tongues.
10. What should we desire to do with our spiritual gifts?
1 Corinthians 14:12 Edify the church.
11. When all the spiritual gifts are working properly in the body of Christ, what will the body do for itself?
Ephesians 4:16 It will grow and build up in love.

If you want to know more about the body of Christ, read **Romans 12:4-8** and **1 Corinthians 12:1-31**.

12. How can we be filled with the Holy Spirit?
Luke 11:11-13 By asking for it from the Father.

In **Ephesians 5:18** the Bible commands us to “be filled with the Holy Spirit.” It is better translated “be continually being filled with the Holy Spirit.” It is talking about REFILLS. It is not only a one time filling, but we are continually in need of God's power. We get refills in the same way we get the first filling, ASK!

If you have not already been filled with the Holy Spirit or if you need a refill, pray a simple prayer like this; “Father my power is not enough. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and give me the power I need. In Jesus' name, Amen.

From memory, write out your memory verse from the beginning of this bible study.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you; and you shall be witnesses to Me.
-Acts 1:8