

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Power



After you receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, God wants to give you the promised Holy Spirit! With the infilling (or baptism) in the Holy Spirit you will be filled with joy, receive power to live a holy life and serve God with all your heart, and receive boldness to tell others about Jesus. *(This is not the same as water baptism.)*

Before Jesus ascended into Heaven, he told his disciples:

Don't leave Jerusalem. Instead, wait for what the Father has promised, about which you heard me speak, because John baptized with water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit a few days from now...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere... ~ Acts 1:4-5,8

The Holy Spirit is symbolized as a dove in Matthew 3:16. He was first poured out on the believers on the Day of Pentecost as they waited for the promise of the Father like Jesus told them to do.

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. ~ Acts 2:1-4

The Holy Spirit will fill you with power and joy, and give you an unknown language called "tongues" to glorify God. This is often the sign you receive when you are baptized in the Holy Spirit.

And when (Apostle) Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. ~ Acts 19:6

And when they had prayed, the place in which they were assembled was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they continued to speak the Word of God with freedom and boldness and courage. ~ Acts 4:31

And the believers were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. ~ Acts 13:52

The promise of the Holy Spirit is for every person today who has surrendered their heart and life to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off (in the future), as many as the Lord our God will call. ~ Acts 2:39

The Holy Spirit is a blessing and a gift of God's love to you. It brings God great pleasure to give you this gift. It's not anything you deserve or can earn, but it is received through faith like you received new life in Christ. If you want all that God has for you, ask Him to fill you with His precious Holy Spirit to receive power, joy and boldness.

Pray: *Dear Lord Jesus, I believe the Holy Spirit is for me today and I want to receive the promise of the Father. I need the Holy Spirit's power to help me live for you, and to fill me with joy and courage to tell others about you. Come, Holy Spirit, and fill me up to overflowing with your presence now. I yield my life and my tongue to you. In the name of Jesus I receive you. Amen.*

Start to verbally worship and thank God for the gift of His Holy Spirit, believing that you have received what you asked for. Keep praising God and just release your faith to receive. His power may come over you like tingling, or great joy or peace, or waves of love. Your tongue may feel thick. Or you may feel nothing at all. But as you continue to thank and worship God, He will fill you to overflowing in His Spirit.

Speak out the words He puts on your tongue. When strange and unknown words or sounds come to your tongue, speak them out. You don't have to think about what to speak. The words are formed by the Holy Spirit, not by your mind, but you need to yield your tongue to the Spirit and speak them out. He won't force you to do it.

The man who speaks in special sounds (or an unknown tongue) speaks to God. He is not speaking to men. No one understands. He is speaking secret things through the power of the Holy Spirit. ~ 1 Corinthians 14:2

Pray in tongues often. By doing so, you will be built up in your faith and will become more confident in your spiritual walk. God gives you this powerful prayer language as a way to directly communicate with Him, especially when you don't know how to pray. The Holy Spirit prays through your yielded tongue in perfect agreement with God's will.

For further study read: Acts chapters 1-4; 1 Corinthians chapters 12-14; Galatians 5:16-26; Romans chapter 8; Jude 20-21.