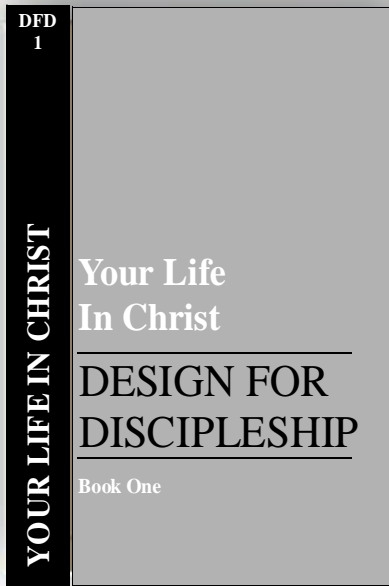


The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

Part I

- ✓ Daily "Quiet Time"
- ✓ Memorize Romans 3:23
- ✓ Buy DFD Book 2
- ✓ (No DFD assignment this week.)
- ✓ Review pages 23-35 of the manual.

Your Assignment



Chapter 4 The Spirit within You

The Focus of this week's study is to learn about the person of the Holy Spirit, that He indwells you, and how to live under His control.



Congratulations on completing Book 1 - Your Life in Christ

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

- ✓ Daily "Quiet Time"
- ✓ Memorim and review Romans 3:23
- ✓ Re-read Wk. 6 (Pages 23-35) -Note any questions you have on the pages
- ✓ Complete DFD Chapter 1 (Book 2)

Your Assignment

If you've ever had or used a computer, you know it can be confusing at best. Forget about using any of the programs. A true computer illiterate can't even figure out how to turn it on. Once you get the power on, to actually use the computer to its full potential, you have to know how to use the operating system that comes with it.

The operating system is the thing that really makes it work.

When you buy a computer today, most of the time it comes with an operating system already loaded and it's ready to go. *Windows* is the operating system that powers many personal computers today.



Most people don't ever read the *Windows* manual, or at best they just quickly flip through the pages. Most people try and figure out the *Windows operating system* that makes their computer work by just playing around, hunting and pecking, because all that stuff in the manual seems so complicated. They say, "*I just want the computer to work*".

This is the exact situation we find many Christians in today.

All Christians receive their brand new gift of salvation with gratitude and thankfulness. With it they receive the *operating system* that gives them the power to be who God wants them to be. It's called the Holy Spirit.

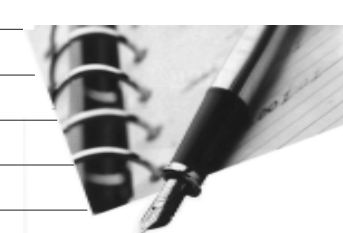
The *Holy Spirit* gives the Christian the power to be an effective Christian in this world. It has the potential of empowering the Christian to live up to his full capability as a minister of Christ. Yet, many Christians have all this power bottled up inside them. They are hunting and pecking, and tinkering around trying to find out what's missing, searching for a way they can be more effective and fulfilled in their Christian life.



The Holy Spirit is the Operating System that comes with the Gift of Salvation



Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.



Most Christians read stories in the book of Acts about believers laying hands on people and those people being healed; stories of Christians boldly proclaiming the Gospel and people being saved as those Christians lead others into a personal relationship with Jesus.

They read about gifts of the Spirit like *prophecy, healing, tongues, and words of knowledge and wisdom*, and it seems to all be mythology to them because they can't relate. They can't relate because it hasn't been part of their Christian experience. They haven't experienced that type of boldness where they are compelled to proclaim their beliefs to others. They don't remember ever using their tongue to do anything other than lick a popsicle.

When it comes to the Holy Spirit, many Christians don't know that kind of *"Living on the edge faith"* lifestyle that is described in the life of the early Christians we read about in the Bible. The reason for this is that the *operating systems* of many Christians aren't running at full *power*.



The Holy Spirit is the Power God provides to accomplish the full Christian life and experience. We must not only be plugged into that source of power, but we must also have the switch turned on.

There is probably nothing that is more misunderstood or misrepresented in the Christian faith than the experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

"Filled with the Spirit?"
"Baptized in the Spirit?"
"Sealed in the Spirit?"
"Slain in the Spirit?"

What does it all mean?

No one can seem to really put his finger on it or explain it very clearly, other than from emotion or ecstatic experiences. We get stuck on terms, tongues, and total misrepresentations of the Holy Spirit and what it's meant to be in the life of the Christian. The phrase, term, experience, and definition of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit seems to be something that no one can grasp. *We want to know what that means and what it looks like.*

Is it any wonder that most people would rather just not go there because it's all so confusing?...turn the page and let's find out why.

Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.



Four Reasons that Christians are left unequipped to use their new operating system to its full potential:

Bad Teaching

1 *This could be anything from bad interpretation of scripture or teaching that puts forth the idea that only Christians in the early church were allowed to experience certain aspects and gifts of the Holy Spirit, and that those things aren't available for Christians today. As a result, the Christian is left to his own efforts and strength to try to accomplish things that God never meant for him to accomplish on his own.*

Bad Models

2 *Many Christians have been to churches where things were occurring in the name of the Holy Spirit that had nothing to do with the Holy Spirit. Some have seen things done that were meant to be a blessing to the body of Christ and build up the church, but they weren't done "decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40) so it brought more confusion than clarity.*

Misunderstanding or Misinformation

3 *Because of a combination of #1 and #2, the Christian remains unequipped and confused.*

No Teaching on the Holy Spirit

4 *Some Christians have never heard about the Holy Spirit or been to a church that has spent much time teaching on the Holy Spirit. (see ACTS 19:1-7)*

The truth is that God doesn't just want to SAVE us; He also wants to USE us!

All these reasons for a Christian remaining unequipped in the operating system of the Holy Spirit are tragic, because it's clear from God's Word that the Holy Spirit is the **key** to a Christian living a victorious life in the Lord and accomplishing everything God has for him while on this earth. Without the operating system of a Christian running at its full capacity, there is no way to lead an obedient Christian life. Ultimately, we get to that place where we are desiring more and sensing there is more to the Christian life than going to church, doing Bible studies, and waiting for the benefit of eternal life to kick in.

Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.



The important thing to recognize is that, without the operating system of the Holy Spirit running at its maximum potential, we end up not living out our Christian life to its full potential.

The Christian life instead becomes an existence in faith on earth, rather than something *radical* and *powerful* like we read about in the New Testament. We end up living out our faith through other Christian friends' experiences or pastors' stories and illustrations about how God has used them, instead of seeing God use us in those same powerful ways. We are left with the sense that other Christians are more special, called, or holy in God's sight and we will somehow never "arrive".

The only difference in them, and in us, is the *Baptism of the Holy Spirit*.

Look at some of the *radical* and *powerful* things that Jesus said could accompany those who received Him as their Savior.....

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel (good news) to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In my name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Mark 16:15-18



Wouldn't you say this is the operating system of the Holy Spirit running at full capacity?

Do these types of experiences that show the power of the Holy Spirit accompany your life?

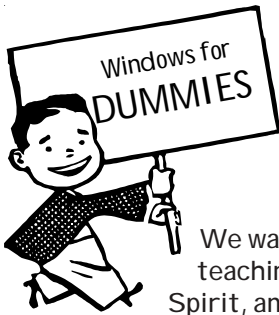
- ? What is the missing element?
- ? What has to happen to get the operating system of the Holy Spirit running at full capacity?
- ? How do I turn on the power switch?

Experience the ...



Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.

Experiencing the BAPTISM of the HOLY SPIRIT!



For those people who don't know how to run their Windows operating system on their computers, they came out with a pretty simple book entitled "*Windows for Dummies*". It's for all those computer users who want to see, in the most simplistic terms, their Windows operating systems and their computers run at full capability.

Otherwise...why have a computer, right?

We want to take the same approach to the Holy Spirit. We want to wipe the slate clean from bad teaching, no teaching, bad models and experiences, misinformation and misrepresentations of the Holy Spirit, and find out exactly what the Bible has to say, in the simplest terms, about our operating system, which is the Holy Spirit.

Why be a Christian if you can't be the most effective Christian you can be, right?

Here is a simple explanation of the *Baptism of the Holy Spirit*, what the Bible has to say about it, and how you, as a believer in Jesus Christ, can get your operating system running at full potential. This overview is not for dummies, but for those who desire to live dynamic lives for the Lord and experience all that God has for them!



The Baptism of the Holy Spirit? **What does it mean ?**

Look up the following verses and fill in the blanks the best you can.

Luke 3:15-16

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is described as an experience separate from _____

John 1:33

The Messiah was described to John the Baptist as the one who _____ with the HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 1:4-5

Jesus commanded the disciples to _____ for the experience of the *Baptism of the Holy Spirit* in Jerusalem.

Acts 1:8

The purpose of baptizing the apostles with the Holy Spirit was to give them _____ to be a witness for Jesus Christ and to live for Him.



There is an experience called the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit"

Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.

Didn't I get the Holy Spirit at salvation?

In the disciples' experience, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred after their conversion.....

Read John 20:19-22

Jesus breathed on the disciples and said " _____ the Holy Spirit".

1. It was not until after this "fresh breath experience" (Spirit now indwelling them and having regenerated them) that Jesus promised them the experience of the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit".

"...for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now". (Acts 1:5)

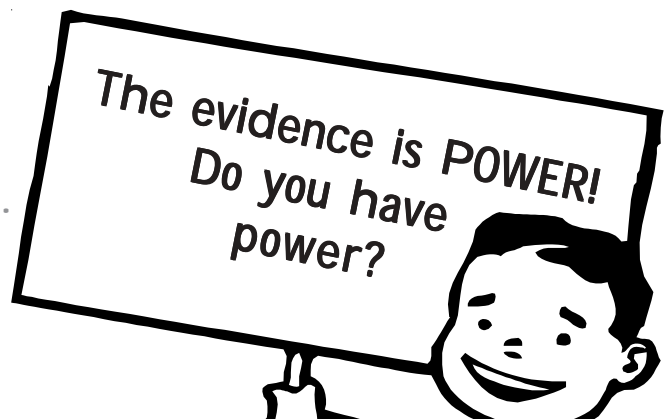
2. This was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost in the upper room as the apostles waited for this experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit that Jesus had promised. (Read Acts 2:1-4)

However, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit can also occur at salvation.....

Read what happened to Cornelius in Acts 10:24-48

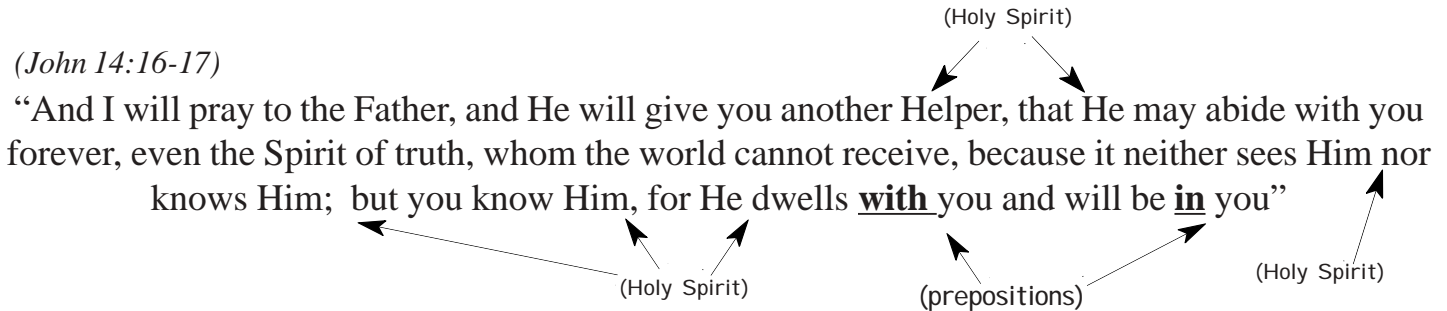
The "Baptism of the Holy Spirit" occurred at _____

There is an experience called the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit" that can happen at salvation, or it can be separate from the salvation experience.



“The key to uncovering the truths in the New Testament is found in understanding its prepositions”.
Martin Luther

The following are **three key prepositions** in the New Testament that each describe a different relationship of the Holy Spirit to people....



#1 preposition:

from John 14:16-17 is the Greek word ‘para’ which means: **“WITH”** or **“ALONGSIDE”**

The first important New Testament preposition to understand is the Greek word “para”, which in English means “with” or “alongside”. This is the word used in Jesus’ discussion with His disciples about the promise of the Helper (Holy Spirit) that would come and be with them forever. Up to this point the Holy Spirit had been “with” (para) or “alongside” the disciples. This “para” or “alongside” relationship of the Holy Spirit to people is illustrated perfectly in the following passage of scripture.....

(John 16:8)

And when He (Holy Spirit) has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment....

The Holy Spirit had been **“WITH”** the disciples, or **“ALONGSIDE”** them, before Jesus’ death and resurrection convicting them and others of sin and that Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus was promising that the Holy Spirit would come and fulfill this role forever after He died and was raised from the dead and went to be with the Father. This conversation with the disciples occurred before they received the Holy Spirit **“in”** them, which is 6 chapters later.

Check it out!

(John 20:22)

“And when He had said this, He breathed on them (the disciples) and said to them ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’.”

Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.

#2 preposition

from John 14:16-17 is the Greek word 'en' which means "IN"

The Holy Spirit would no longer be "with" them or "alongside" them, but would be "IN" them when Jesus breathed on them in John 20. The disciples went from having the Spirit "WITH" ("para") them to having the Holy Spirit "IN" ("en") them and regenerating them into a new creation.

Did YOU KNOW?

These same two prepositions describe your own experience with salvation..... The Holy Spirit was **WITH** (para) you and **ALONGSIDE** you prior to your conversion.

(John 16:8)

The Holy Spirit was **WITH** you and **convicted** you of sin
The Holy Spirit was **ALONGSIDE** you and **convinced** you that Jesus is the Son of God.

Check this out!

When you invited Jesus into your life to be Lord of your life, the Holy Spirit came "**INTO**" you and began to dwell "**IN**" (En) you. You went from "**para**" (with) to "**En**" (in) just like the disciples.

Though every Christian has gone from Jesus being "with" them to being "in" them, not every believer has had the experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

#3 preposition

is the Greek word 'epi' which means "UPON" or "OVERFLOWS"

The Holy Spirit comes **UPON** you or **OVER-FLOWS** you. This "epi" empowers you as a believer for God's service.

"And being assembled together with them, He (Jesus) commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise...But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come **UPON** ("epi") you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the end of the earth"

(Acts 1:4,8)

Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.

The best way to summarize these 3 different relationships of the Holy Spirit to people is to think of a pitcher of water sitting next to any empty glass.

para

The full pitcher of water would be "alongside" (para) the empty glass.

The Holy Spirit WITH you (*John 14:17*)



en

If you pour the water into the empty glass, now the water is "in" (en) the glass.

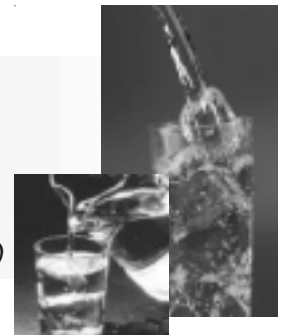
The Holy Spirit IN you (*John 20:22, Romans 8:9,11, 1 Corinthians 3:16*)



epi

If you keep pouring the water from the pitcher into the glass until it overflows, then the water is now "upon" (epi) or "overflowing" the glass.

The Holy Spirit OVERFLOWING you (*Acts 1:8, 10:44-48, Acts 8:14-17, 19:1-7*)



Think of the Holy Spirit overflowing you as E.P.I. or

Extra Power Inside

It's GOD'S WILL for every Christian to OVERFLOW with the power of the Holy Spirit!

Acts 2:37-38

The GIFT Peter spoke of was the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

It's a GIFT
and
It's POWER

Acts 2:39

This gift of POWER is for everyone! It didn't die with the last apostle!

Different Experiences, The Same Event



One of the things we quickly learn about God is that He isn't bound by formulas or particular ways of doing things. We read in the Old Testament that He spoke through the mouth of a donkey to get the attention of a man, and when it comes to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit expectations must be put aside.

Read the following experiences of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and fill in the blanks. You will discover different experiences, but the same event occurring.

- Acts 2:1-4** Baptism of the Holy Spirit included sound like _____, _____, tongues of fire landing on each apostle, and they all spoke with _____.
- Acts 8:14-17** The Baptism of the Holy Spirit included _____ on the believers, and there were no manifestations of any sort.
- Acts 9:10-19** The Baptism of the Holy Spirit was imparted to Paul, by a common believer named _____, not by one of Jesus' original Apostles.
- Acts 10:44-48** Peter is interrupted in the middle of his message as the Holy Spirit fell _____ (EPI) all those who heard the word.
- Acts 19:1-6** Paul laid his hands on these believers and they spoke in tongues and _____

The experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in some cases was initiated by an apostle, while in Paul's case it was initiated by a common believer. The apostles and disciples at Pentecost had signs that immediately were manifest like tongues and/or prophecy, while others like Paul and the believers in Samaria, apparently did not.

Laying on hands, waiting in an upper room, standing, sitting, writing a letter to a friend, sitting in a car, lying on your bed praying. God isn't bound by formulas or particular ways of doing things when it comes to baptizing people with His Spirit!



Week 6 - Ministry of the Holy Spirit part II

Remember that the early Christians we read about didn't have bad teaching or bad models to leave a bad taste in their mouth about the Holy Spirit. The early Christians' approach to the Holy Spirit had no expectations or pre-conceived ideas! Instead they were open to what God wanted to do in them. They simply said:

“God, I want all you have for me. Give me everything you have”.
They were willing to let go and let God!
ARE YOU??

In your own words, explain the 3 prepositions that are used to describe the relationship between the Holy Spirit and people? (See if you can do it without looking back at your notes)

“With”

“In”

“Upon”

What is the purpose of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? What is the evidence? (Hint: See Acts 1:8)



Write in any questions that come to mind and then read on.

Receive the Holy Spirit by Faith

The only way to possess a gift is to **receive** it. You must simply receive the gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The Gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit must be received just like the gift of Salvation...
By Faith.



How do I become Baptized with the Holy Spirit?

Ask And You Shall Receive

Read → Luke 11:11-13

Jesus tells His disciples that the Holy Spirit is something we must **ASK** for and that it is there for the asking. God will give you the Holy Spirit, and all the gifts that go with it, if you will just ask Him. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift that your heavenly Father desires to give to you if you will ask Him for it.

Gifts Can't Be Earned and Aren't Deserved

Read → Acts 2:37-39

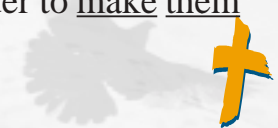
Many people feel that before they give their lives to God they have to get their lives cleaned up first. This misses the point that grace and forgiveness can't be earned and that the "cleaning up" process belongs to God, not us.

Your Salvation was received by faith

Read → Galatians 3:2-3 Ephesians 2:8-9

You didn't earn, work, or accomplish Salvation. It was given to you as a gift by God based on Jesus' work on the cross. You simply had to receive it by faith.

In the same way we must understand that the Holy Spirit isn't given to people as a reward for becoming holy on their own, but it is given to them in order to make them holy!!!



When you received Christ, what kind of experience did you have right after you prayed to receive Him?

What should I expect to happen when I receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

Read Hebrews 11:1 and fill in the blanks...

“Faith is the substance of things _____ for,
and the evidence of things _____ seen.”

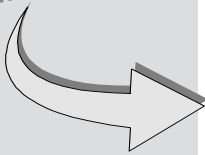
The overwhelming evidence that a person has been baptized in the Holy Spirit is POWER (Acts 1:8)! This power is given so that they can be witnesses for Christ in the way they begin to live a holy life and the way they share Him with others. When people are baptized with the Holy Spirit, they sometimes expect some sort of immediate evidence like tongues or prophecy, even though that has nothing to do with faith. As we've already seen, biblical accounts of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in believer's lives show that there is no formula or expected pattern.

Read John 20:26-29

Thomas is an example of a believer who desired the “Holy Tingles” before He would believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. We must receive the Holy Spirit by faith, “Holy Tingles” or not.

Sometimes there is immediate evidence and sometimes there is not 😊

IMPORTANT



If you have not already asked to receive this promised gift, I urge you right now to pray in faith that God will give it to you. You could pray something like the following:

Lord, I thank you for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. I receive right now the gift of your Spirit in my life, along with the power to transform and change me. I ask that your Power would flow forth from my life to help and strengthen those around me. I ask that you would give me every spiritual gift that you desire to give me in order to help and strengthen those around me.

In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

Did you ask God for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?
