

Week Four
WHAT IS NECESSARY TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- **Must be born again?** - John 3:3 - Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. [Jesus and Nicodemus]
- **Must Believe** - A person must believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that Jesus died on the cross bearing all of the sins of mankind and that he is resurrected and even now sits at the right hand of the Father, forevermore.

Believing is an act of faith therefore faith is a major part of receiving.

Romans 10: 17 - So then faith comes from hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

Romans 12: 3 - For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the **measure of faith**.

We all have a seed of faith placed within us when we are born. The seed of faith begins to grow as we feed upon the Word of God. How big can faith grow? That is up to the hearer / believer. I have never read a scripture that says there is a limit or a defined measure. In the Book of Acts Stephan was said to be "Full of faith" Acts 6: 8. The Apostle Barnabas in Acts 11: 24 was recorded as being a good man full of the Holy Ghost and faith.

Mark 11: 22 says, Have faith in God.

GOD IS A REWARDER...

Hebrews 11: 6 - But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to **God** must believe that He **is**, and *that* He **is a rewarder** of those who diligently seek Him.

Faith in Hebrew is, *pis - tis* - meaning persuasion to have a moral conviction of the truthfulness of God.

BELIEVER MUST KNOW GOD'S WORD..

2 Timothy 2:15 - Work hard so God can say to you, "Well done." Be a good workman, one who does not need to be ashamed when God examines your work. Know what his Word says and means.

THE PROMISE...

How about the fact that the Holy Ghost was a given promise?

Luke 24: 49 - Jesus said, Behold, I send **the Promise of My Father** upon you; but tarry in **the city of Jerusalem** until you are endued with power from on high.”

Acts 1: 4 - [**The Holy Spirit Promised**] 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;

After Jesus was resurrected the scripture states, “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.” Acts 2: 33

Who released and poured the Holy Spirit out? Jesus for the Father had given all power and authority on this earth to Christ.

John the baptist in Luke 3: 16 identifies Jesus as the baptizer of the Holy Spirit. “John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed **baptize** you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall **baptize** you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:....”

- **Must have a Desire** - a person must have a great desire to pursue God so much so that knowing God is the most important thing - hunger and thirst for this relationship are constant and they won't be satisfied until he/she has attained it.

How do we develop a desire or create a hunger for the baptism of the Holy Ghost? Desire means to long for, to crave. How do we develop a longing or craving? Experience shows us that when we want something really bad we will pursue it! We are focused on attaining what we want somehow, someway we will possess what we want. And most of the time we don't even pray for it we just go after it. So the pursuit of what we want increases our appetite and we won't be satisfied until we get it.

That's the way it is with the Holy Spirit we must desire him with the same intensity.

Be a lover of the Word - Crave the Word

Meditate - Joshua 1: 8 - “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate thereon day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

Feed on the Word of God and a hunger for all that God has for you will grow.

- **Love** - Love for God is so much that he/she wants to serve and obey whatever God has for him/her. Living for God is foremost in the heart of the believer.

Love for God should be the motivation to receiving the infilling of the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 22: 37 - **Love the Lord your God** with all **your** heart, soul, and mind.’

We have looked at what is necessary to receive the Holy Ghost. It is not complicated. If you have had a bad experience when being assisted in the baptism of the Holy Spirit you can, by understanding the process I have just opened to you, begin with a renewed understanding.

Luke 11: 9 - 13

9. “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. **10** For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. **11** 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? **12** Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? **13** 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!”

Things to Think About

You cannot coerce or force an individual into receiving the Baptism of Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongue. This will cause them to doubt whether they truly received the gift. It is a counterfeit rather than the genuine.

Excerpt from Pastor Dave Williams...How to be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Counterfeits

I must confess, I’ve seen some wild things over the years. I was in one meeting where there was an invitation for believers to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Probably a hundred people came forward for prayer. I overheard one of the ministers saying to a young lady, “Now, repeat after me. ‘Shun-Dah-Mah-Kie-Ah. Shun-Dah-Mah-Kie-Ah.’” He apparently wanted her to repeat his “tongues” so he could report that she had received the baptism with the Holy Spirit. It is no wonder some people are afraid of Pentecostals.

I have heard of others telling people to make up some words to, “prime the pump.” So we find people saying, “She-came-on-a-Honda,” over and over again, or, “See-ah-my-tie,” or, “Taca-Taca-Taca-Taco-Bell.” Give me a break. God will not bless this kind of carnality. You want the “real thing,” not the counterfeit.

What Holds People Back?

Why is it that some believers ask, but never receive? I believe the answer is twofold.

1. First, they may need to break through many years of false teaching and tradition that has cluttered their minds.
2. Second, they may not be putting action to their faith by speaking forth in tongues. They may be waiting for a special feeling. But the feeling may or may not come until *first* there is an *act* of faith.

Explain and Refute False Concepts

1. ***“The Holy Ghost will take you over, and it will be uncontrollable.”*** This is nonsense. God will not violate your will. That’s why Paul said, “I *will* pray with the spirit, and I *will* pray with my understanding.” It is an act of the human will; not something uncontrollable that will put you in a trance or dominate all your motor functions.

2. ***“Sometimes you need to tarry a long time.”*** Typically this is an excuse used by the person who never puts action to his faith. Yes, the disciples had to “tarry” until the day of Pentecost, but after that we have no Biblical record that believers had to just tarry, waiting around for the event to happen. It’s true before you begin to launch your ministry, you should wait until you receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit, but you can receive the experience right this minute if you put action to your faith.

3. ***“You’ll see the words in your mind that God wants you to speak.”*** No, this is not correct. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is a spiritual experience, not a mental experience. One of the great purposes of speaking in tongues is to put your mind where it belongs — in second place to your spirit.

4. ***“The Holy Ghost will speak through you.”*** This is another one of those erroneous ideas that keeps a lot of people from receiving. They are waiting for a voice to speak through them, but it won’t happen.

The Holy Spirit doesn’t speak in tongues. He gives the utterance, but you are the one that speaks. “The Holy Ghost came on them; and *they* spake with tongues and prophesied,” ([Acts 19:5](#)). Who spoke in tongues? *They* did. It was not the Holy Ghost. Paul wrote, “I thank my God, *I speak* with tongues...” ([1 Corinthians 14:18](#)). Who spoke in tongues? Paul did. Again, it was not the Holy Ghost.

Strategies of the devil to Discourage a Person from Receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

1. ***When you begin to speak in tongues, the devil will likely say, “That’s just you speaking!”*** Well, he’s partially right. It is *you* speaking, but it’s the Holy Spirit giving you the utterance. So, in essence, it’s not “just you” speaking. That’s why Paul talked

about praying *with* the Spirit. Again, you do the natural, and the Holy Spirit will do the “super,” and together it’s a supernatural transaction.

2. ***The devil will probably tell you that you are, “making it all up,” when you begin to speak in supernatural tongues.*** It’s his ploy to get you to stop. Don’t stop. Keep praying in those strange sounding tongues, and you will find a fresh anointing of power come over your life.

3. ***The devil will probably bring to your mind some of the erroneous teachings you’ve heard over the years, hoping to destroy your faith.*** He may suggest, “You are really messing up. This was for the apostles only. You have no promise from God for this. Stop now before judgment falls on you.” What? No promise? We have more than a promise, we also have a command to be filled. Jesus told his disciples to receive this miraculous baptism with the Holy Spirit, and Peter assured us that the promise was for us, our children, and those who are afar off ([Acts 2:38](#)).

When You pray for someone to receive the Holy Spirit give them this outline on, “What Is Necessary to be Filled with the Holy Spirit?” If they would like you to pray with them encourage them thus wise. “When I lay my hands on you, the Holy Spirit will give you the utterance to speak in tongues. Instruct them to cease all native language praises (in other words for most Americans, this would mean to speak no more words in English for the time being), and immediately begin to praise God in tongues. Be honest and tell them it will sound foolish, but to do it anyway. You may have to remind them of the benefits of this experience, remind them that our spirit needs to ascend above our minds. Since the word “spirit” in the Greek language is the same as “air” or “breath,” perhaps you want to instruct the believer to take a deep breath when they feel your hands touch them, then begin to praise in other languages.

Remember

Luke 11: 9 - 13

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