



## ***Session 4 Joy and Triumph the Holy Spirit Brings***

### **I. Introduction to the Holy Spirit**

- A. When people talk about God as three persons in one, Holy Spirit is always the most misunderstood.
  - 1. God the Father as the mighty creator of all things, walking through the garden and talking to Adam, etc.
  - 2. God the Son, Jesus, is obvious to all believers. He is the sacrificial lamb, our redeemer, saviour, soon coming King...
  - 3. Holy Spirit, on the other hand is somewhat mysterious. He broods over the chaos at creation. He descends upon Jesus at His water baptism, He fills all of us and gives us new languages and gifts and fruit.
- B. Holy Spirit is actually the Spirit of the Father and the Son.
  - 1. You can kind of imagine Who Father God is.
  - 2. You can definitely see or understand Who Jesus is, and what He has done.
  - 3. But, the Holy Spirit takes a little more time and faith to imagine. The fact is that He needs to show us Who He is by doing miraculous things in order for us to experience what we can't see.
- C. Our natural mind cannot comprehend or receive the things of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit has to reveal everything spiritual to us. 1 Cor. 2:14.

### **II. The Holy Spirit Filling People Before the Day of Pentecost**

- A. The Day of Pentecost always comes to mind when thinking about the Holy Spirit filling believers. But, did you know Holy Spirit was filling people, in the New Testament, far before the day of Pentecost?
- B. Who do you think was the first person in the NT to be filled with the Spirit?
  - 1. Probably Mary, Jesus' mother.  
*Mt. 1:20 says "...don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for that which was conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit."*
  - 2. So, because Jesus was in her, the Holy Spirit was also in her.
- C. In Luke 1:15 the angel talked to Zecharias about his son John being filled with Holy Spirit, and in Luke 1:44 that prophesy is fulfilled.

*Luke 1:41 says "And it came to pass that when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe (John) leaped in her womb for joy and Elizabeth was FILLED with the Holy Spirit."*

Then she prophesied, "*Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb...*" *Lk. 1:42*

When someone is filled with the Holy Spirit, it tends to spill out; in this case she manifested the gift of prophesy.

- D. Luke 2:26 talks of Simeon waiting for baby Jesus in the temple, and the Holy Spirit was “Upon him”; ***“And it was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Anointed one, Jesus.”***
- E. John The Baptist said ***“I baptize you with water unto repentance, but He (Jesus) shall baptize you with Holy Spirit and fire.” Luke 3:16***
- F. When Jesus was baptized in water, the Spirit, like a dove, came and remained on Him.
1. This is what God’s plan is for us: that Jesus would live, die, be raised, ascend back to heaven, then Holy Spirit would come upon and remain with us.
  2. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are faithful to remain with us, ***“never leaving or forsaking us”*** according to Hebrews 13:5.
  3. We can drive a wedge between us and Him by engaging in habitual sin and refusing to listen or respond to His call to us. Thus, we can choose to distance ourselves from Him by remaining in sin.
  4. But 1 John 1:9 says “if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” So, Holy Spirit can come back to dwell upon us, re-fill us, re-anoint us.
- G. In ministry, it is crucial that we confess our sins before we minister, so that Holy Spirit can come to help us. Otherwise, we would be ministering in our flesh, and there is no power or authority in our flesh. God is wanting us to move and operate in the Holy Spirit. He desires for us to use His power and authority to advance His Kingdom and defeat the devil. Therefore, we need to be fit and prepared.

### III. Different Levels of Being Filled with the Holy Spirit

- A. After Jesus was crucified and rose from the dead, but before He ascended to the Father, ***John 20:22 says “He breathed on them (His disciples), and said to them ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’.”*** They didn’t ask to be filled, Jesus just volunteered to do that.
- B. Later, Jesus said in ***Acts 1: 4-8, “wait for the promise...you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now...you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me...”***  
So, even though He had breathed on them and said “receive the Holy Spirit” there was something MORE that was coming that they needed to wait for.
- C. ***Acts 2:1-4 says “And when the day of Pentecost had fully come...there appeared to them cloven tongues like fire, and it sat upon each one of them...and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance...”***  
They were baptized or immersed in the Holy Spirit and fire, just like John said they would, and the gift of tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophesy were all on display.
- D. Peter said in ***Acts 2:38-39 “Repent, and be baptized every one of you 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 for you, for your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God shall call.”***  
THIS IS YOU AND ME, ALL OF US.

1. The promise of Holy spirit and all of His gifts and fruits did not end when the Apostles died. The promise is alive and well today, and it is available to as many as the Lord shall call.
2. Questions:
  - Has He called you?
  - Have you received your filling or re-filling?
  - Are you operating in His gifts?
  - Are you experiencing His fruits?
- E. Then, a few days later, after Peter and John had been persecuted by the Jewish leaders, for healing the lame man at the temple gate, the disciples got together with other believers and called upon the Lord saying,  
***“Now Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word by stretching out Your hand to heal and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.” And when they prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*”**  
***Acts 4:29-31***
- F. So, three times, the same people were filled with the Holy Spirit.
  1. The first of those was when Jesus just breathed on them to receive the Holy Spirit, after He rose from the dead, but before His ascension.
  2. The second time was the promised spectacular out pouring on the day of Pentecost.
  3. Then, the last time, after they were persecuted, they felt the need to ask for a re-filling, and they were re-filled.
- G. So, it seems that Holy Spirit is willing and able to pour out what we need when we need it by filling us, and re-filling us. When we ask for it, He is willing to pour out more. It seems that all we need to do is to keep asking.

#### IV. The Manifestation of the Holy Spirit

- A. When we are filled with Holy Spirit several things happen:
  1. We become witnesses with power and boldness. Acts 4:32
  2. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 talks about other gifts of the Spirit, which are given by the Spirit.  
***“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:  
Word of wisdom through the Spirit  
Word of knowledge through the same Spirit  
Faith by the same Spirit  
Gifts of healings by the same Spirit  
Working of miracles  
prophecy  
discerning of spirits  
different kinds of tongues  
interpretation of tongues.....But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”*** 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

- B. Holy Spirit was sent by the Father, after Jesus was crucified and resurrected and ascended so that He could empower us to do what Jesus did - to multiply Jesus' ministry by the thousands and millions. God's purpose is to have us go out to heal the sick, baptize them in water and Holy Spirit, save them from the fires of hell - to do the works of Jesus, and greater works.
- John 14:12 says, "Truly truly I say to you that those who believe in me will do what I Am doing, and you will do even greater things because I am going to My Father."***
- C. The devil thought he got rid of his problem when he had Jesus killed, but his troubles were just beginning. What he did not count on, what he could not foresee was the Holy Spirit coming to empower millions of other little Jesus', just as powerful, just as effective, but able to do the work in multiple places at multiple times.
- D. Jesus, as powerful and effective as He was, truly was and had become a man, who could only be in one place at a time; Jesus was limited by the flesh He chose to inhabit. That's why Jairus had to wait for Jesus to get to his house, and the others needed to come to Him in a certain place, at a certain time.
- E. But we, being many, and having that same power of the Holy Spirit can be and do His work so much more efficiently. God knew this, and planned it this way...the devil had no idea how complicated his task would become...so many Jesus' in so many places doing what Jesus did.
- F. Remember what Jesus said, ***"All authority is given unto me in heaven and in earth...go teach, heal the sick, cast out devils, speak with new tongues..."Mt. 28 & Mk. 16***

#### V. Speaking in Tongues

- A. This is a very unique gift because, with it, we can speak directly to God without our intellect getting in the way.

***1Cor. 14:14-15 "For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. I will pray with the Spirit, and I will pray with my understanding also. I will sing with the Spirit, and will also sing with the understanding."***

***Jude 20 "But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit."***

***Romans 8:26-27 "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses for we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God."***

***1 Cor. 14:2,4 "He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men, but to God..." 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself."***

- B. Speaking in tongues does all of these things:
1. Allows you to speak directly to God.
  2. Allows you to bypass my understanding/intellect.
  3. Builds up your faith.

4. Allows Holy Spirit to intercede for you.
  5. Allows you to pray according to the will of God.
  6. Edifies you.
- C. For myself, I made a decision years ago to pray in the spirit as much and as often as I can. So, if I'm driving in the car, or waiting around in a mall or restaurant for whatever reason, or walking... I'm usually praying in the Spirit.
- D. The bible says to pray without ceasing. 1 Thes. 5:17 I think praying in the Spirit is the only way to accomplish that without rambling repetitively. When I pray with my understanding, I usually run out of things to pray in a few minutes. But, when I pray in the Spirit, I can pray for hours at a time.
- E. When I see an accident on the road, or another emergency, I begin praying in the Spirit knowing that God knows the details, but I can direct my prayer towards that situation.
- F. And I have also discovered that singing in the Spirit is a great way to begin writing new songs from scripture. You can choose a scripture promise that speaks to you, then start singing in the Spirit. After a little while, you can sing the scripture to the melody you were singing in the Spirit. This might take a little practice, but it does work.
- G. We have been learning to use more of the gifts: healing, prophesy, discerning of spirits, words of wisdom and knowledge. We have a long way to go, but we are asking God to fill us and empower us in the use of these gifts, and He is and He does.

## VI. Conclusion with Testimonies

- A. We should all be asking to be filled and re-filled and re-filled. There is no point at which your Heavenly Father is going to say, no, I ran out of Holy Spirit power. He never runs out. In fact He can create NEW EDITIONS of gifts for you to try out, just like new toys – healing: new improved healing, super-duper healing.
- B. My friend Larry learned about “scanning” people’s limbs, or blowing on them. Holy Spirit is very creative.
- C. Testimony - I had a lady spin around one way, and then the other to receive her healing from dizziness. There is no set way to operate in a gift of Holy Spirit. It’s His gifts that He allows us to use as needed, in whatever fashion He wants to use.
- D. I heard a story of a guy who was taken up to heaven, and as he was walking, he came across a door with his name on it, so he asked what was behind the door. When the angel opened the door, the guy saw a huge warehouse with lots of shelves; some of the shelves had stacks of gifts on them, and there were empty spots on some shelves. So, he asked, what is this place? The angel said, these are the gifts the Father had prepared for you. The empty spaces are where the gifts were that you actually opened and used. The ones still on the shelves are gifts you never opened. Many of them were delivered to you, but you didn’t stop to open them, so they were brought back.

- E. God is the giver of all good gifts, and He gives them freely. The more gifts we open and use, the more He gives. His supply is endless. Just like the stewards with the talents - will we use them or bury them? If we don't use them, then the Lord may give those gifts to someone else who will use them.
- F. I heard another testimony from a friend of mine, a seer. She went to a local church, and when she walked in, she saw ministering angels lined up along the side walls of the church. They were waiting to be used, to be assigned a task, to help in some way. But, at the end of the service, they were still standing there, none had moved, none had been asked to help, none were assigned any tasks. She said it was the saddest thing she's ever seen.
- G. Heaven is fully supplied, fully equipped. Angels are fully prepared, the gifts have been wrapped and are ready to hand out. Holy Spirit has received His assignment to come along side us to help.
1. Are we going to ask for help?
  2. Are we going to ask for gifts to use in ministry?
  3. Are we going to partner with holy Spirit to do the works of Jesus, and be little Jesus' everywhere we go?
- H. Remember...Peter, on the day of Pentecost, said, ***“For the promise (of Holy Spirit) is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”***  
If you need to be filled with the Holy Spirit, or need to repent of your sins and be re-filled, do it now.