

## Lesson 3

### “Spirit-filled”

Jesus taught his followers that it would be impossible to live the Christian life in their own strength. They (we) would need the inner dwelling of the Holy Spirit and the outer working of His power. Every Christian without exception must have the “*power from on high*” to live the Christian life and to share his faith with others. This power comes from what the Bible calls the “baptism of the Holy Spirit”.

Take a look at the following scriptures:

*Luke 24:49 “I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been **clothed with power** from on high”*

*Acts 2:4 “All of them were **filled** with the **Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”*

*Acts 2:38,39 “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the **gift of the Holy Spirit**.<sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”*

*Ephesians 5:18 “Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be **filled** with the **Spirit**”*

#### Who is the Holy Spirit?

- 1) The Holy Spirit is the third member of the threefold Godhead, and now that you are born again, He is with you in every life situation.
- 2) He is not a vague influence or mystic idea – He is a person. This means He can communicate and make himself real to you. You cannot necessarily see Him, but He is, nevertheless always present.

#### What does He do?

- 1) The Holy Spirit Births us into the Kingdom

- a) *John 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again"*
- b) *John 3:5,6 "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit"*

## 2) He Baptizes us with Power

*Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the **Holy Spirit** comes on you..."*

a) Power to be a witness to others (Acts 1:8)

b) Power to live as a child of God

*Gal. 4:6 "Because you are his sons, God sent the **Spirit** of his Son into our hearts, the **Spirit** who calls out, "Abba, Father"*

c) Power for daily living

*Gal 5:16 "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh"*

d) Power to overcome the devil.

i) *Jesus drove out demons by the power of the Spirit. Mt 12:28 "But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you"*

ii) *This same victorious Spirit dwells in us. (Romans 8:11)*

e) Power to pray and praise in the language of the Spirit.

i) *1Corinthians 14:2 For those who speak in a tongue do not speak to other people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.*

ii) *1Corinthians 14:15-16 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.*

iii) *Note: there are two purposes for speaking unknown tongues (Act. 2:4). First is praying in the spirit. This is a powerful personal experience available to all spirit-filled Christians. Through the Holy Spirit a new believers is given a*

language of the spirit in which he is able to pray with his spirit in a realm beyond his intellect. The other purpose of speaking in unknown tongues is prophecy. This is a supernatural utterance whereby the Spirit of God chooses to speak a message from God to a person or group of people. It operates with the companion gift of "interpretation of tongues" found listed in 1 Corinthians 12: 7-11.

- f) Power to minister to other Christians through certain gifts
  - i) *1 Corinthians 12:4 (NLIV) "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all"*
  - ii) *1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLIV) "A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other"*

### **How do I get filled with the Spirit?**

"...*"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" (Acts 19:2)*

- 1) When you were saved you were born of the Spirit. But there is more waiting for you in the Spirit beyond salvation.
- 2) In the Scripture there are many different ways people received the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Read: Acts 2:4; 8:17; 9:17; 10:44-46; Acts 19:6).
  - a) Some were waiting and praying.
  - b) Some were hearing the word and responding to the teaching.
  - c) Some received when another person laid their hands on them and prayed.
- 3) Below are some spiritual requirements and some helpful hints for receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Read the scripture references listed below).
  - a) Get right with God... Holy Spirit baptism follows salvation. (Acts 2:38,39)
  - b) Deal with your sin issues. (Acts 5:32 "Obedience")
  - c) Passionately desire the fullness of the Spirit. (Acts 2:19:1-7)
  - d) Ask in faith. (Luke 11:9-13)
  - e) Have other Spirit-filled believers pray with you. (Acts 8:17; 9:17; 19:6)

- f) Begin to pray and worship at an intimate level. (1Cor. 14:15,16)
- g) Receive by faith.
- h) Speak out any utterances given by the Spirit. (Acts 2:4)
- i) Continue with a seeker's heart. (Luke 11:9-13)

