



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Experiencing the Holy Spirit

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print it to study on your own or use it in a group to experience transformation together.

Message Theme

Power, Presence & Purpose

Prayer Focus

"Holy Spirit, I welcome You here. Strengthen me to stand firm, walk boldly, and share Your truth. Let Your fire refine me and deepen my faith. Fill me with Your presence and guide my steps every day. Amen."

Key Truths

Jesus' ministry isn't confined to the past—it's alive and active today. He is still building His church, shaping lives, and calling people into His purpose.

In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit's anointing was reserved for the prophet, the priest, and the king. Even then, He rested upon them rather than dwelling within them. But through Christ, that has changed—the Holy Spirit now lives inside every believer, empowering us daily, and is promised by our Father God.

The Kingdom of God isn't something we simply step into after this life. It begins now, transforming our hearts, shaping our choices, and influencing the world around us. It's meant to impact every aspect of our daily lives. Salvation is like taking a drink of water—refreshing, life-giving, and essential. But being baptized in this promised Spirit is like being completely submerged, immersed in His presence. We don't have to beg or force God to give the Holy Spirit; He has already poured Him out. Every born-again believer has the Holy Spirit living within them. Yet, having the Spirit inside doesn't automatically mean someone has been baptized in the Spirit—there's a deeper experience, a fullness that comes with surrender and empowerment.

The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to commission us to be witnesses for Jesus. It's to make God's fatherhood real to us. It's to lead and guide us into all truth—His reality for our lives. He is the promise. This means we can trust Him, be all in, and live our lives the way He has determined for us.

Practical Application

If we are going to stand against the enemy, we cannot rely on our own strength—we need the power of the Holy Spirit. Too often, we wait passively for Him to move when God has already given us the words to say, the

things to do, and the person to be. Our journey with Christ is marked by three baptisms: the first when we receive Him and are baptized into His body; the second, in water, signifying our union with Him in His death and resurrection; and the third, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, poured out by Jesus to equip us with boldness and power, making His reality come alive in us. This final Baptism is not just a symbolic act—it is the supernatural empowerment we need to walk in victory.

If Baptism is something you are interested in or haven't done since you have believed in Christ, we encourage you to make that decision. If you have been baptized, then we encourage you to walk in the power of the Spirit no matter what life situation you face. He is where the power is, and He is in you!

Reference Verses

- Matthew 3:11
- John 20:21-22, 7:37-39
- Acts 1:1-8, 8:17, 8:5-19, 9:10, 2:1-4, 2:38-39
- Mark 16:16
- 1 Peter 1:23
- Romans 10:13-17
- Galatians 3:13-14
- Ephesians 4:5
- 1 Cor 12:13

Declarations:

- I declare that the Holy Spirit dwells within me, empowering me daily—I am anointed to walk in His truth, wisdom, and authority.
- I do not have to beg for the Holy Spirit—He has already been poured out, and I receive Him in abundance.
- I am a witness for Jesus—my life is surrendered to Him, and I will boldly proclaim His name

What's Next?

Embracing the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a pivotal step into a life marked by greater power and purpose. By engaging with these steps, you can position yourself to receive and walk in this transformative power.

Step 1: Grasp and Desire This Distinct Promise

First, truly grasp that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a distinct and essential experience beyond salvation. Don't let past teachings or assumptions prevent you from understanding its significance. Jesus commanded it, calling it the "promise of the Father," and its purpose is to equip you with "dunamis"—explosive, supernatural power—to be an effective witness for Him. Cultivate a deep and genuine desire for this spiritual infilling, recognizing it as a direct promise from God, rooted in His covenant with Abraham, and meant specifically for you, today.

Step 2: Actively Ask and Expect to Receive

Since Jesus is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit, and the promise extends to "all who are afar off" (which includes you!), your next step is to actively ask and expect to receive. This isn't something you earn through good works;

it's a gift freely given by God's grace. Simply, sincerely, and boldly ask Jesus to baptize you in the Holy Spirit. Approach this moment with earnest expectation, trusting that God desires to pour out this power on you, just as He did on the Day of Pentecost. Believe that as you ask, you will receive.

Step 3: Walk in Empowered Witness and Authority

Once you receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, it's not a one-time event to be set aside, but an ongoing source of power for your daily life. Allow the Holy Spirit to bring the Bible alive to you and cultivate a profound concern for the lost in your heart. Step out in boldness, using the authority Jesus has given you to actively resist the enemy and declare God's truth. Your life, empowered by the Spirit, will become a compelling witness, demonstrating the Kingdom of God on earth and bringing glory to Him.

Scripture References

Experiencing the Holy Spirit

Matthew 3:11 NKJV I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

John 20:21-22 NKJV So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:1-3 NKJV The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:4-5 NKJV 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; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Acts 1:8 NKJV "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 8:5-8 NKJV Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. And there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:12 NKJV But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

Mark 16:16 NKJV He who believes and is baptized will be saved...

1 Peter 1:23 NKJV ... having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever...

Acts 8:14-16 NKJV Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 8:18-19 NKJV And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:1-4 NKJV When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:38-39 NKJV Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized 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 to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

Jude 3 NKJV Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Galatians 3:13 NKJV Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree")...

Galatians 3:14 NKJV ... that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Ephesians 4:5 NKJV ...one Lord, one faith, one baptism...

Hebrews 6:2 NKJV ...the doctrine of baptisms...

1 Corinthians 12:13 NKJV For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks...

Matthew 28:19 NKJV Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...