



We Value: The Empowerment of the Spirit

Acts 1:1-12 (ESV) ¹ *In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus **began** to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands **through the Holy Spirit** to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ **He presented himself alive** to them after his suffering by many proofs, **appearing to them during forty days** and **speaking about the kingdom of God.** ⁴ And while staying with them he **ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father**, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but **you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now.” ⁶ So when they had come together, **they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”** ⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has **fixed** by his own authority. ⁸ But you **will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**, and you **will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.*

1. The Holy Spirit **actively** ministered throughout the Old Testament.
2. The Father initiates **creation**, Jesus initiates **redemption**, and the Holy Spirit initiates spiritual growth and **development**.
3. We are **Pentecostal** in faith and practice.
4. The Holy Spirit empowers us for **daily** victory.
5. Jesus **commanded** His followers to receive the **promise** of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 24:49 (ESV) *And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”*

1. The Holy Spirit fills us according to our desire

(God wants you to experience **fulfillment**; the devil wants to produce **frustration**)

Isaiah 47 **water is trickling, ankle deep, knee deep, waist deep, water to swim in**

1. You receive the Holy Spirit at **conversion**.
2. As you grow in God you are **filled** with the Spirit.
3. As you continue to grow in God you can be filled to **overflowing**.
4. Spiritual growth continues as you are **baptized** in the Spirit—you are no longer the container but the Holy Spirit controls you.

2. The Holy Spirit Works to develop Christ-like disciples

1. Speaking in tongues is the initial physical evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
Proof—The book of acts, the writing of Paul in 1 Corinthians 12-14

Why tongues?

- Practical**—the gospel was preached to the masses on the day of Pentecost Acts 1
- Personal**—your mouth is the most difficult part of your body to control.
- Spiritual**—your voice was designed to glorify God.

2. The fruit of the Spirit is evidence of the Holy Spirit's control of your life.

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

3. Gifts of the Spirit. At least 20 in the Bible from Romans 12, 1 Cor. 12 and Eph 4.

4. The purpose of spiritual gifts is for the benefit of the receiver of the gift—not primarily the affirmation of the one God uses to deliver the gift.

3. The Holy Spirit is Essential to every Christian

1. The fullness of the Spirit's indwelling is just as much of God's desire for every Christian as salvation from sin.

2. The Holy Spirit is necessary for you to live a holy life.

Trying to serve God without the Spirit's empowerment is like trying to drive your car without starting the engine.

3. The Holy Spirit gives us power to serve, worship, grow, connect, and invest.

Ephesians 5:15-20 (ESV) ¹⁵ *Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,* ¹⁶ *making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.* ¹⁷ *Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.* ¹⁸ *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but* **be filled with the Spirit,** ¹⁹ *addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,* ²⁰ *giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*