

## THE BIG IDEA: The Holy Spirit is the power of God to help the people of God accomplish the mission of God

### The Take-Off

On one of my first trips to India, I found myself being led by Koshy to the house where someone was sick. Along the way, he shared with me how the family had tried everything - even calling in a witch doctor and the Hindu priest - but had not experienced healing. Now, Koshy said, they were asking for us to come pray. As we entered the small home, he turned to me and said, "You pray, brother Paul." It was in that exact moment that I realized the importance of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

### 1. What is the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

- a. It's the power we need for the mission we've been given
- b. **The Holy Spirit is the power of God to help the people of God accomplish the mission of God**
- c. **Acts 1:8 (NIV)** / dynamite power that will move us in the mission
- d. The baptism is critical to the mission
  - **Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)**
  - They had already been given the mission (Matt. 28:18-20)
  - Now they were to wait for the power
  - There is nothing more necessary than the preaching of the gospel and the making of disciples to the ends of the earth
  - But we must have power to accomplish that, and it can't be our own
  - God knew that trying to accomplish His mission in our power would be a disaster, and so He said wait
- e. **Acts 10:37-38 (NIV)** / if Jesus needed the Spirit's power for the mission, how much more do we?

### 2. Don't we already have the Holy Spirit?

- a. At this time, we may be wondering how we got saved if we don't have the Holy Spirit.
- b. Let's clear that up right now.
- c. **1 Cor. 12:3 (NIV)** / it's impossible to be saved without the Holy Spirit
- d. The baptism of the Spirit is a distinct work not for the purpose of cleansing from sin, but for the purpose of empowering for service
- e. **John 15:3 (NIV)** / The disciples had already been made new, but hadn't been baptized in the Holy Spirit
- f. **Acts 8:14-17 (NIV)** / The Samaritans had already believed and then the church sent Peter and John so that they might also receive the Holy Spirit
- g. Let's sum this up by saying that every believer has the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit doesn't necessarily have every believer

### 3. What does the baptism of the Holy Spirit do?

- a. It transforms us. It moves us. It empowers us.
- b. Peter went from denying Jesus to preaching boldly to the very people who yelled crucify about Jesus
- c. What happened? The baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- d. **Luke 24:49 (NIV)** / clothed with power!
- e. It's the difference between mowing the grass with a zero turn rider and this **[IMAGE / old mower]**

### 4. What keeps us from receiving the baptism?

- a. If Jesus promised it, needed it, and told us to wait for it, then the obvious question is why are we not receiving it?
- b. The first word Peter spoke in **Acts 2:38 (NIV)** is the key: repent
- c. We can't be baptized with the Holy Spirit if we aren't willing to lay down our own power, our own will
- d. Pride is a killer when it comes to the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- e. We need to understand, we need to control, we need to be in charge
- f. All of this keeps us from being an open vessel ready to receive His power

- g. But look what happens when we do yield our way to His way
- h. [Ephesians 3:20 \(NIV\)](#) / we don't want to limit what a limitless God can do through us / this promise has a condition - "according to the power at work in us"

#### The Landing

All of that leads us to the question, "What now?"

The obvious answer is that you may need to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and if you're a leaky vessel like me, you may need a refilling of the Holy Spirit's power

How do we receive it? We simply ask in faith and receive in faith.

[Luke 11:9-13 \(NIV\)](#)

We can ask this boldly because we know the promise of the Holy Spirit's power is for us

[Acts 2:39 \(NIV\)](#) / for all those who will believe - that's you and that's me

We ask our Father and we receive from our Father

Let's end our morning doing just that

Let's pray



Scan this code to see the notes from an earlier series called "The Helper" about the Holy Spirit