Session 2: Review / The Anointing and The Baptisms of and with/in HOLY SPIRIT

1. **PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY: WE WANT TO DO MINISTRY LIKE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DID!**

***I Corinthians 12:3 (The Passion Translation)*** *1My fellow believers, I don’t want you to be confused about* ***spiritual realities*** *(Spiritual People) …3Therefore, I want to impart to you an understanding of the following: …No one can say, “****JESUS is the Lord******Yahweh****,”* ***unless the Holy Spirit is speaking through him*** *(or “except by UNION with HOLY SPIRIT”).*

1. What does it mean, “**JESUS** is Lord?” He is the single highest authority in my life. In my life, **JESUS** matters. His opinions, His words are absolutely supreme in my life. I will serve, love, obey, honor and imitate only **JESUS**. With **HOLY SPIRIT** I am falling more and more in LOVE with **JESUS** every day. **JESUS** is the high and exalted one in my life. **NOTE:** The Greek word **pneumatikos** means “spirituals (things).” This is the implication of spiritual realities or spiritual gifts. Some scholars believe that “spirituals” may refer to spiritual persons.
2. **STUDY OUTLINE:**
3. **The PURPOSE of this STUDY**
4. **The PERSON: HOLY SPIRIT**
5. **The GRIEVING and QUENCHING of HOLY SPIRIT**
6. **The ASSIGNMENT of HOLY SPIRIT**
7. **The ANOINTING of HOLY SPIRIT**
8. **The BAPTISM of HOLY SPIRIT**
9. The GIFTS of HOLY SPIRIT
10. The LANGUAGE of HOLY SPIRIT
11. The FRUITS of HOLY SPIRIT
12. **THE PERSON: HOLY SPIRIT**
13. **#1 UPFRONT: THERE ARE FOUR BASIC GROUPS**
    1. The Cessationist
    2. The Charismatics
    3. The Charismaniacs
    4. The Pentecostal

***1 Corinthians 12:11,30 (NLT) 11It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. (NASB95) 30All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?***

***1 Corinthians 14:18 (NASB95) 18I thank God, I (Paul) speak in tongues more than you all;***

1. **#2 UPFRONT:** You will notice that in this study we will constantly refer to God’s Spirit as **HOLY SPIRIT** and not as ***the*** Holy Spirit.I do this because of the deep conviction that **HOLY SPIRIT** is a real person in the Trinity, not some impersonal figment of my imagination. In John 14:16 Jesus referred to Holy Spirit as “***another HELPER***” (ESV). The word helper tells us that **HOLY SPIRIT** functions exactly the same way Jesus did. **Leon Fontaine** in his book, “The Spirit Contemporary Life,” says, ***“Jesus didn’t leave us with someone less wonderful than he is. He left us with someone exactly like him.”***

***John 14:16 (ESV) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever…***

1. When you think of **HOLY SPIRIT,** do not think of him as a blob or a mist. **Think of a REAL PERSON!** You would never say the Jesus or the Gene because Jesus and Gene are names. They represent people, not functions. **Robert Morris** states, ***“If you don’t see the Holy Spirit as a person, you’ll never develop a personal relationship with Him.”***

***Matthew 28:19 (ESV) Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,***

1. **TEN LESSONS “WE MUST” LEARN: We must** understand that on our Christian Journey we cannot even attempt to live the Christian life where the **SUPERNATURAL** and the **MIRACULOUS** become a part of our **EVERYDAY** **EXPERIENCES** without **HOLY SPIRIT**! We need him just as much as Jesus and the early disciples needed him. Jesus clearly said in the book of Mark that signs and wonders would follow those who believe. **Leon Fontaine says**, *“That means these signs go wherever you go— work, school, home, the mall, the gym, the grocery store. They don’t occur only at church or on mission trips. The supernatural and the miraculous can become a part of your everyday experience as you learn to live the Spirit Contemporary life. Interested?”*

***Mark 16:17–18 (NKJV) 17And these signs will follow those who believe… they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”***

***“Christianity is meant to be the most powerful and attractive force on the planet.”*** Leon Fontaine

1. **THE GRIEVING and the QUENCHING of HOLY SPIRIT**
2. **THE GRIEVING of HOLY SPIRIT:** To understand what it means to grieve **HOLY SPIRIT**, we must first understand that this indicates **HOLY SPIRIT** possesses a personality. Only a person can be grieved; therefore, **HOLY SPIRIT** must be a divine person in order to have this emotion.

***Ephesians 4:30 (ESV)*** *And* ***do not grieve*** *the Holy Spirit of God...*

1. **THE QUENCHING of HOLY SPIRIT:** Paul is admonishing the church at Thessalonica to not quench **HOLY SPIRIT**. ‘Quench’ here is in the context of the corporate church. It is a master concept which embraces prophecy and has reference to extraordinary manifestations of **HOLY SPIRIT**. **HOLY SPIRIT POWER CAN BE EXTINGUISHED FROM this church BY US.**

***1 Thessalonians 5:19-20 (ESV) Do not quench the Spirit… Do not scoff at prophecies***

1. **THE ASSIGNMENT of HOLY SPIRIT**
2. **HOLY SPIRIT** throws a **GIGANTIC spotlight on JESUS** so that we can see his glory and be changed (John 16:14). That’s why in Corinthians Paul speaks of being changed from glory to glory as we behold him. This speaks of becoming more like JESUS by beholding the glory of **JESUS**.

1. **We must not think we can focus on JESUS too much**, or that when we exalt **JESUS** to the glory of the Father that somehow **HOLY SPIRIT** is sulking off in the corner. **HOLY SPIRIT** has one goal every day and that is to shine a light on **JESUS**. **Exalting JESUS**, **focusing on JESUS**, **speaking much about JESUS** and **singing often about JESUS** are not evidences of dismissing **HOLY SPIRIT** but of **HOLY SPIRIT’S** work. **If the symbol of the church is the cross and not the dove, that’s because HOLY SPIRIT would have it that way.**

*“The Spirit’s message to us is never, ‘Look at me; listen to me; come to me; get to know me,’ but always, ‘Look at Him, and see His glory; listen to Him, and hear His word; go to Him, and have life; get to know Him, and taste His gift of joy and peace.”* J. I. Packer

1. ***IN SUMMARY: HOLY SPIRIT is passionate about “Making Much of JESUS!”***
2. **THE ANOINTING of HOLY SPIRIT**
3. When we examine the New Testament, we see many titles for Jesus of Nazareth: ***Son of God***, ***Son of Man***, ***Lord***, and others. However, when we look closely, the title that is given to Jesus most often in the New Testament is one that we are all very familiar with, but one that we do not understand well. It is the title “***Christ***.” “***Christ***” is not a secondary name for Jesus; He would have been known as “Jesus Bar-Joseph,” meaning “Jesus, son of Joseph.” Rather, “***Christ***” is Jesus’ ***supreme title***.
4. Many good Bible believing Christians are not aware of the true meaning of this title that is so often associated with Jesus. The meaning of **Christ** is drawn from the Old Testament period. God promised the ancient Israelites that a ***Messiah*** would come to deliver them from sin. The idea of the Messiah is carried over into the New Testament with the title **Christ**. The Greek word **Christos**, from which we get the English word **Christ**, is the translation of the Hebrew term **Mashiach**, which is the source for the English word **Messiah**. **Mashiach**, in turn, is related to the Hebrew verb **masach** which means “***to anoint***.” Therefore, when the New Testament speaks of Jesus Christ, it is saying “***Jesus the Messiah***,” which literally means, “***Jesus the Anointed One***.” One could almost literally say that the true name today we should address Jesus by, according to the Hebrew language, is “***Yeshua Hamashiach***” which means in English, “***Jesus the Anointed One***.”
5. During the Old Testament period, people were subject to walking under and receiving this anointing when they were called to the offices of ***prophet***, ***priest***, and ***king***. When Saul became the first king of Israel, Samuel the prophet anointed his head with oil in a ceremonial fashion (I Sam. 10:1). This special occasion was performed to show that the king of Israel was chosen and endowed by God for the kingship. Likewise, the priests (Ex. 28:41) and prophets (I Kings 19:16) were anointed at God’s very strict commandment.
6. In essence anyone in the Old Testament who was set apart and consecrated for a specific task was a ***messiah***, for he was one who received an anointing. So, you can imagine how the people of Israel look forward to not another ***messiah***, but ***The Messiah***.
7. Amazingly, when Jesus began His public ministry, he was so aware of this anointing on his life. He knew clearly ***the importance of this anointing resting on him*** because of ***the divine assignment given to him by the Father***.

***Luke 3:16 (NIV) 16John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.***

***Luke 3:21–22 (NIV) 21When all the people were being baptized (In Water), Jesus was baptized*** *(Water)* ***too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”***

***Luke 4:14 (NIV) 14Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.***

***Luke 4:1–2 (NIV) 1Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,***

***2where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days…***

***Luke 4:14–19 (NIV) 14Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15He was teaching in their synagogues…17and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: 18“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”***

1. We live in a day that is filled with both ***UNTHINKABLE PERIL*** and ***UNIMAGINABLE OPPORTUNITY***. If there was ever a time in history when the body of Christ needed God’s anointing power, it is now! So many people are afraid or even unaware ***that this is an absolute necessity in our lives to operate in the Kingdom of God***. The question should not remain whether or not we need it. We see clearly at the beginning of Jesus’ ministry that he did nothing until he walked in and under this anointing.
2. **The Facts:** What’s your idea of the average American community? White picket fences, manicured lawns, and two cars in the garage? The real America is not so picturesque, and it underscores the urgency of our work as Christians. If you live in the typical community—with 100 average neighbors—here’s the reality:

* 7 of Your Neighbors struggle with Depression or some form of Suicidal Tendency.
* 14 are FEAR crippled or attacked by ANXIETY
* 7 are ABUSING or ADDICTED to DRUGS or ALCOHOL
* 3 are GRIEVING over the DEATH of a LOVED ONE
* 8 are struggling with LOSS of a JOB
* 60 DON’T profess to be BORN AGAIN CHRISTIANS

1. These statistics clearly show us that we need something more than a ***“Form of Godliness.”*** When the Apostle Paul was addressing young Timothy, he clearly told him that in the last days there was going to be a ***“Form of Godliness”*** and from such we are to turn away. We are in such need of a supernatural power operating in our lives, family, and ministries. We have become way too satisfied with our programs and pretending to have it all together. When in reality many of our people are bound by religion, debt, addiction, depression and every form of bondage that we see on a daily basis all around us.

***2 Timothy 3:1–5 (NIV) 1But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— 5having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.***

1. Paul is clearly stating to Timothy that there are some in the last days that will profess a ***form of religion*** in ***“Word Only,”*** but this religion will have ***NO POWER!*** Then the apostle goes on to give us some very strong instruction concerning those that do not operate in this ***POWER***. He states some very sobering words, ***“Have nothing to do with such people.”*** In other words do not have any form of fellowship with these and quickly withdraw from them. Paul was very clear what type of ministry he went about doing.

***1 Corinthians 2:4 (NIV) 4My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power.***

***1 Corinthians 4:20 (NIV) 20For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.***

1. The question must be answered, “**How do you move into this power, and how do you see it increase?”** The anointing is the overflow of Christ in your life! It comes to us as we spend time in God’s Word, seek Him with our whole heart, and worship Him. We increase the anointing by spending time in His presence. You will certainly know when the presence of the Holy Spirit has come upon your life. You will begin to see ***Greater Healings***, ***Greater Deliverances***, ***Greater Provision***, ***Greater Revelation*** and ***Greater Increase in the Supernatural***. **SO HOW DOES ALL THIS HAPPEN FOR ME?**
2. **THE BAPTISM IN/WITH HOLY SPIRIT**
3. It might be a SURPRISE to many good CHRISTIANS that according to **SCRIPTURE** and not **TRADITION** that ***there are multiple baptisms***, ***THREE to be EXACT***, that the Bible teaches about. Even when it is taught correctly there seems to be more of a push back when you begin to talk about one of the three, ***The Baptism in/with Holy Spirit.*** There are so many good believers that attend church, serve, and faithfully give on a constant basis that still struggle with this concept taught in scripture on ***The Baptism in/with Holy Spirit***. They have a hard time believing at salvation they did not receive all **HOLY SPIRIT offers**.

***Hebrews 6:1–2 (NLT) So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely, we don’t need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds and placing our faith in God. 2You don’t need further instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.***

1. What I have found is that there is a tremendous amount of confusion with these words: ***sealed, indwelt, fellowshipping*** or even being ***filled with HOLY SPIRIT.*** We will attempt in this study to bring some clarity to these terms and statements concerning HOLY SPIRIT. **First Question, “What does to be SEALED by the Spirit mean?”** **Answer:** Holy Spirit is ***The Father’s Seal on His people***, His very claim that we are His own. The Gift of HOLY SPIRIT to all believers is a down payment on our inheritance, which Jesus has promised us and totally secured for us on the cross. I do not believe that anyone or anything according to what Paul said (Romans 8) can separate us from the Love of God. In other words, no one can break the seal of GOD. **HOLY SPIRIT** is given to believers as a ***“first installment”*** to assure us that our full inheritance as children of God will be delivered.

***Ephesians 1:13–14 (NIV) 13And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance…***

1. **Our Second Question remains then**, **“What is the INDWELLING of HOLY SPIRIT?”** **Answer:** The indwelling of **HOLY SPIRIT** is the action by which God takes up permanent residence in the body of a believer in Jesus Christ. In the Old Testament, **HOLY SPIRIT** would come and go from the saints, empowering them for service but not necessarily remaining with them (see Judges 15:14; 1 Chronicles 12:18; Psalm 51:11; Ezekiel 11:5). Jesus revealed to His disciples the new role that the Spirit of Truth would play in their lives after Pentecost. He very clearly told them to await **HIS** arrival.

***John 14:17 (NIV) 17… you know him (HOLY SPIRIT), for he lives with you and will be in you.***

***1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (NIV) 19Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.***

1. When **HOLY SPIRIT** takes up residency in us, HE begins to bring about some very life-changing decisions. When an individual accepts Christ as their personal Savior, **HOLY SPIRIT** gives the believer the life of God, eternal life, which is really His very nature (Titus 3:5; 2 Peter 1:4), and **HOLY SPIRIT** comes to live within him spiritually. ***The Spirit*** installs the new believer as a member of Christ’s universal church. This is ***The Baptism of Holy Spirit***, when HE (Holy Spirit) baptizes us into JESUS (Salvation). When you accept Christ as your Savior (Romans 10:9–13), Holy Spirit takes up residence in your heart, bringing with Him an entirely new life of love, relationship, and service to the Lord.

***1 Corinthians 12:13 (ESV) For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.***

1. **The Third Question we must address is with the terminology of *“Fellowshipping with Holy Spirit.”*** Paul wrote about the blessing of fellowshipping with **HOLY SPIRIT** (2 Cor. 13:14; Phil. 2:1). **HOLY SPIRIT** is a dynamic Person who lives inside our spirit. We are to fellowship, or commune, with Him by talking with Him often. We must value and cultivate our friendship with **Holy Spirit** in an intentional way. One way to do this is by speaking to Him as the God who dwells within us. Some refer to this activity as ***abiding prayer***, ***contemplative prayer***, ***communing prayer***, or ***the prayer of quiet***. This is **not** the Baptism **IN/WITH** HOLY SPIRIT that Jesus spoke of. This is communing with Holy Spirit or even talking to Holy Spirit.

***2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV) 14May … the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.***

***Philippians 2:1 (NKJV) …if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,***

1. It might surprise you even more to learn that God considers this teaching to be ***“elementary.”*** The writer of Hebrews says he would like to move on from the grade-school instruction and start teaching his readers deeper things. ***I’ve realized that many Christians need help seeing that Scripture indeed teaches about three separate and distinct baptisms***. With that in mind, I’d like to give you several biblical examples of all three baptisms. As the writer of Hebrews recognizes, there are multiple baptisms (plural).

***Hebrews 6:1–2 (NLT) So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely… 2You don’t need further instruction about baptisms…***

1. **THIS is the ONE TEXT THAT SHOWS US ALL THREE BAPTISMS:**

***Acts 2:37–41 (NLT) Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”***

1. ***38Peter replied, “Each of you must REPENT*** *(Salvation)* ***of your sins and turn to God,***
2. ***and be BAPTIZED*** *(Water)* ***in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.***
3. ***Then you will RECEIVE*** *(Spirit)* ***the gift of the Holy Spirit.***

***39This promise is to you, (PROMISE by JESUS in Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4) and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God.”***

**SALVATION\*\*\*\*WATER\*\*\*\*SPIRIT**

**1. HOLY SPIRIT BAPTIZES US INTO JESUS! (SALVATION)**

**2. The DISCIPLE BAPTIZES US IN WATER! (WATER)**

**3. The LORD JESUS BAPTIZES US IN/WITH HOLY SPIRIT! (SPIRIT)**

1. Based largely on **ONE STATEMENT** in Ephesians 4, many Bible teachers insist that there is only one baptism in the New Testament, water baptism. ***“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” (Ephesians 4:4-6)*** If taken out of context and used as a stand-alone text many verses in the Bible can be construed to mean any number of things which are not true. *The context here is* ***“unity”*** *among believers, and Paul is attempting to get everyone on the same page.*The baptism referred to here is almost certainly believer’s baptism in water. The point is that we who are saved share a common faith, in a common God, and have had a common baptism. In the 2nd chapter of Acts there are clearly two Distinct Baptisms and another implied.
2. The Disciples Baptize Us In **WATER**. Water baptism **SYMBOLIZES** the DEATH, the BURIAL & the RESURRECTION of JESUS CHRIST! MANY PEOPLE see this as a CHURCH TRADITION instead of a **CHURCH ORDINANCE**. ***JOHN PIPER said that baptism is YOU DRAMATIZING the CROSS!*** A wedding ring is a **SYMBOL** that one is married. When you attend a wedding ceremony, you witness that sacred moment of a man placing the ring on his bride. You do not yell out that it is “stupid”. No, you know it is a sacred moment.
3. It’s an Ordinance of the CHURCH. Matthew 28:19 (NLT)
4. It EXPRESSES UNION with CHRIST. Romans 6:3–4 (ESV) …we too might walk in newness of life.
5. It happens BIBLICALLY by IMMERSION in WATER. Romans 6:3–4 We were buried with him.
6. It is done in the name of the FATHER, the SON, and HOLY SPIRIT. Matthew 28:19
7. It is an EXPRESSION of One FAITH, and it is for BELIEVERS ONLY! Colossians 2:11–12
8. **It Is JESUS Who Baptizes US In/With HOLY SPIRIT!** Once a believer has experienced the new birth and been water baptized, we encourage them to seek God for ***The Baptism in/with Holy Spirit***.  The word “baptism” is used in various contexts throughout the Scriptures.  There are ***three distinct baptisms*** in God’s Word: These three baptisms are often explained together in Scripture.  (Acts 2:37–39; Acts 8:5–8, 12, 14–17; Acts 19:1–6) IN ALL FOUR GOSPELS and the BOOK of ACTS they are recorded. This Baptism is recorded in all four Gospels along with the ***death***, ***burial*** and the ***resurrection*** of Jesus.
9. ***Matthew 3:11 (ESV) “I baptize you with water for 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.***
10. ***Mark 1:8 (ESV) I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”***
11. ***Luke 3:16 (ESV) John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.***
12. ***John 1:33 (ESV) I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’***
13. ***Acts 1:4–5 (ESV) 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; 5for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”***
14. **THE FIRST ONE CAN’T BE THE SAME as the SECOND ONE! STATEMENT:** Some people mistakenly teach that Holy Spirit is the one who does the baptizing. This is not true…Jesus is the Baptizer. ***Another misconception is that speaking in tongues is the initial evidence of the baptism of Holy Spirit. Sometimes it IS, and sometimes it is NOT.*** Additionally, some even teach that the sin nature inherent in the flesh is completely eradicated in conjunction with the baptism of Holy Spirit. This also is NOT true…see Romans 7.
15. **WHY do YOU NEED this BAPTISM In/With Holy Spirit? Because HE (HOLY SPIRIT) releases you to…**
16. **… BECOME a BETTER WITNESS to a LOST and DYING WORLD.**

***Acts 1:8 (ESV) 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.”***

1. **… WALK in GREATER POWER and AUTHORITY for the DEMONSTRATION of MIRACLES.**

***Acts 3:6–8 (ESV)*** *The Lame Beggar Healed* ***6But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” 7And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. 8And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.***

***Acts 4:7–9 & 13 (ESV) 7And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” 8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed,*13*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus*.**

1. **... INTERCEDE in PRAYER at GREATER LEVELS and to FIGHT SPIRTUALLY in GREATER REALMS.**

***Acts 4:23-24 & 29-31 (ESV)*** *The Believers Pray for Boldness* ***23When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, …29And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” 31And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.***

1. **… HELP ADVANCE the KINGDOM of GOD with YOUR GIFTS**.

***Acts 4:32 & 34–37 (ESV)*** *They Had Everything in Common* ***32Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. 34There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold 35and laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. 36Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, 37sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles’ feet.***

1. **…DEMONSTRATE the CHARACTER of JESUS CHRIST in all AREAS with the FRUITS of HOLY SPIRIT.**

***Galatians 5:16–26 (ESV) Keep in Step with the Spirit 16But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.25If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. 26Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.***

1. **Our** **FINAL SUBJECT** is the verse that we find in the writings of the Apostle Paul where he is clearly telling the church at Ephesus to ***“be filled with the Spirit.”*** The apostle Paul commands in Ephesians that ***we be filled with Holy Spirit.*** Therefore, I want to try to answer two questions today.
2. **What does it mean to be filled with Holy Spirit?** And, “**How can we be filled with Holy Spirit?** With the spread of Pentecostalism in this country and in the third world, there has been a lot of discussion about the New Testament phrases ***"filled with the Spirit"*** and ***"Baptized In/With the Spirit."*** We have already clearly defined what it means to be ***“Baptized In/With the Spirit.”***

***Ephesians 5:18 (ESV) And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,***

1. When we study extensively the writings of Luke (Book of Luke and Acts), we see what happened at Pentecost as both a “**baptism with Holy Spirit”** and a “**filling with Holy Spirit”**. Since Luke refers later on to the disciples being filled again (Acts 4:8, 31; 13:4) but never refers to them as being baptized again with the Spirit, it seems to me that for Luke ***"baptism with Holy Spirit"*** refers to that ***initial filling*** by Holy Spirit after a person trusts in Christ. We must remember that the question is not, ***“Do we have all of Holy Spirit,”*** but the better question is, ***“Does Holy Spirit have ALL of ME?”***
2. Both Luke and Paul would have agreed that what the new believer or even faltering babe in Christ needs is a great outpouring of Holy Spirit into his life. **Paul**would have called this experience ***"being filled"*** with Holy Spirit. **Luke**would have agreed, but then would have also called this ***first experience*** of Holy Spirit's fullness the ***"baptism in/with Holy Spirit."*** So, while the phrase ***"baptized with Holy Spirit"*** is used differently by Paul and Luke, they view man's need and God's action as basically the same.
3. What we should seek (and this applies to all Christians) is that God pour his Spirit out upon us ***so completely*** that we are ***filled with joy***, ***victorious over sin***, ***walking in all the gifts,*** and ***become*** ***bold to witness***. The ways he brings us to that fullness are probably as varied as people are. It may come in an experience of tongues. It may come through a tumultuous experience of ecstasy and no tongues. It may come through a crisis of suffering when you abandon yourself totally to God. It may even come gradually through a steady diet of God's Word and prayer and fellowship and worship and service. ***Whatever way it comes, our first experience of the fullness of Holy Spirit is only the beginning of a life-long battle to stay filled with HIM (Holy Spirit).***
4. Paul states, “Don't Turn to Alcohol, turn to the Spirit:” That brings us to Ephesians 5:18 where **the present tense of the verb in Greek** means just that: ***"Keep on being filled with Holy Spirit."*** Let's look at the context to see more specifically what this means (5:15–18). When you look at the context, Paul is telling them how to walk, not as unwise but as wise, redeeming the time because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **And*“do not get drunk . . . but be filled with the Spirit***.’ This is CLEARLY not a suggestion, but is, in my personal interpretation, one of the **SINGLE GREATEST COMMANDS** given in the entire New Testament.
5. **How Does This Happen for US?** The answer to this predicament in the New Testament is that God has ordained to move into our lives with fullness of ***HOLY SPIRIT*through faith**. Nobody stays full of the Spirit all the time—no one is always totally joyful and submissive to God and empowered for service. We must set before our own soul the banquet of promises that God has made to us and feed our faith to the fullness. Then it may be said of us as it was of Stephen and Barnabas, ***"They were filled with*faith*and with* Holy Spirit*."***

***Luke 11:13 (NIV) 13If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”***

1. **“But it’s outside my comfort zone.”** Does it help to know that we all hesitate for this reason? Let’s be honest with ourselves. ***Our comfort zone*** is really something else: ***Our comfort zone is really our control zone.*** Here is what I have had to learn: the more ***I YIELD CONTROL to HOLY SPIRIT, the more COMFORTABLE I become.*** We all find comfort with those with whom we’ve become familiar, with those we’ve grown to trust and walk with and they become a TRUE FRIEND. As we invest in our relationship with Holy Spirit, as we get to know Him, as we experience what it’s like for Him to manifest Himself in us, ***He becomes our comfort zone***.

**NOTES:**