

We Believe in the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

IDENTITY Series- Week 6

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit- *“All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the enduement of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry.”*

The Experience of the Disciples

John 20:19-22 , Acts 1:4-5, Acts 1:8, Acts 2:1-4

- Things we see in the disciples after they are baptized in the Holy Spirit:
 - Bold preaching of the Gospel
 - Signs and wonders
 - Unshakable joy
 - Utter devotion to God and His mission
 - Sincere love and fellowship

What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

- It is not salvation.
Acts 8:15-17
- It is an experience that should follow salvation (it can be simultaneous but it doesn't come first).
Acts 10:44-46
- It is not a badge of honor.
- It is the right of every born again believer.
Acts 2:37-39
- It is the overflowing of the Spirit that is already deposited in you at salvation.
John 7:37-39
Genesis 7:10-11

- It is a one-time experience, however you can be filled freshly.
Acts 4:31, Ephesians 5:18
- It is this life's ultimate fruition of the New Covenant.
- KEY POINT:
 - LOOK at scripture!!

Why is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit important?

- It is the promise and plan of God for every believer
Luke 24:49
- It connects you at a deeper level of intimacy with God
- It gives you increased power to do Jesus' work. Acts 1:8
- KEY POINT:
 - If you knew there was more, wouldn't you want it?

Who should receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

- All who repent and believe in Jesus as Lord.
 - If you haven't received, here are some words of advice:
 - Ask God fervently.
 - Respond to invitations to receive.
 - Set aside extra-biblical religious baggage, fear of man, comparisons with others,
 - Be like a child...
 - Open your mouth and speak from your innermost being- not english.
- KEY POINT: Don't lean on your own understanding!
 - Augustine of Hippo: "Credo ut intelligam" = "I believe in order that I may understand."