

# *Come Holy Spirit, We Need You!*

## The Holy Spirit's Work in the Individual Believer Part 5

### *Key Scripture:*

*"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and snow come down from the heavens, and return not there again, but water the earth and make it bring forth and sprout, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth out of My mouth: it shall not return to Me void [without producing any effect, useless], but it shall accomplish that which I please and purpose, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out [from the spiritual exile caused by sin and evil into the homeland] with joy and be led forth [by your Leader, the Lord Himself, and His word] with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name of renown, for an everlasting sign [of jubilant exaltation] and memorial [to His praise], which shall not be cut off." Isaiah 55:8-13 (AMP)*

### *Portion for the Journey:*

One of the symbols of the Holy Spirit is Living Water or rain from heaven.

### **Our relationship and unity with God is through the Holy Spirit: 1 Cor. 12:13**

- **His Spirit communicates with our spirit:** Rom. 8:16; Gal. 6:18; Eph. 4:23; Phil. 4:23; 2 Tim. 4:22; Eph. 3:16; Gal. 4:6
- **He gives us a heart that is overflowing with love for God and for others.** Rom. 5:5; 15:30
- **The Holy Spirit helps us in all our needs.** John 14:16; Phil. 1:19

**The Holy Spirit is essential to our prayers.** According to Vine's, there is no instance in the Bible where prayer is made directly to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will show us both how to pray and anoint our prayers with His power. He is the sole interpreter of the needs of the human heart. He intercedes through us. We are exhorted at all times to pray in the Spirit (James 5:16) the last clause of which should probably be read "inwrought by the Holy Spirit supplication of righteous man availeth much' (or 'greatly prevails' *ischyō*, as in Acts 19:16, 20). E.M. Bounds, in his book, "The Possibilities of Prayer" said, "Not on a little process and a mere performance of prayer is the coming of the Holy Spirit and His great grace conditioned, but on prayer set on fire, by an unquenchable desire, with such a sense of need as cannot be denied, with a fixed determination which will not let go, and which will never faint till it wins the greatest good and gets the best and last blessing God has in store for us." Luke 11:1; Matt. 6:9

**1. The Holy Spirit gives us access to approach the throne of the Father. We come to the Father by Jesus Christ (His Name and His shed blood) through the Holy Spirit.** He not only gives us the ability but also the confidence to approach God's throne. Rom. 5:1-2; Eph. 2:18; 3:12; Heb. 4:16; Rom. 8:15

**2. The Holy Spirit unites our hearts with the Father and with the Son.** The Lord's ways are so much higher than our ways, we cannot know Him apart from the Holy Spirit who will grant us to be of one

heart with the Father and the Son. The Spirit shows us His mind and His ways. This will allow us to pray according to the Father's will and according to the Father's loving heart. God desires that we would have the same spirit that Jesus had—the Spirit of Sonship, which is the spirit of liberty, devotion and obedience. It is the same spirit in Jesus who cried “Abba, Father,” who teaches us to cry to Him in this same way. Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 10-12; Eph. 3:14; Gal. 4:6; Rom. 8:15-16

**3. The Holy Spirit shows us how to pray and makes our prayers acceptable to God.** He teaches us how to pray according to His will. He makes our prayers to rise up to God as sweet incense. Rom. 8:15-16, 26,27,29

**4. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us.** Rom. 8:15, 26-27, John 6:63; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; 16:14; 1 Cor. 2:4, 9-13; 14:15; Joel 2:28; Eph. 6:17-20; Jude 1:20-21; Zech. 4:6

**5. The Holy Spirit gives us a burden to pray when we don't know how we ought to pray.** He helps us in our weaknesses. He stirs our hearts with the desire to pray. He puts a burden on our heart to pray for a specific purpose or person. He gives life to our prayers so we don't pray out of a simple sense of responsibility or habit, but He gives life to our prayers through His inspiration. As you pray you may find yourself praying words you would not normally pray—words that come from the very heart of God. Rom. 8:26-27



**6. He teaches and guides us in prayer.** The Holy Spirit teaches us many things about prayer. He teaches us how to pray. He teaches us to listen and to allow Him to speak through His Word. John 14:26

**7. He strengthens us in prayer.** When things were at one of the worst point in David's life, it is said that David encouraged or strengthened himself in the LORD. (Read 1 Sam. 30:1-8) The word for strengthened is synonymous with encouraged. In the Hebrew, the word in this passage is “chazak” (2388). It means to fasten upon, to seize, be strong, courageous, cure, help, repair, fortify, bind, catch, cleave, be constant, continue, be of good courage, be established, fasten, prevail, take hold. Note that David depended on the LORD and prayed for direction. The LORD told him to pursue for he would be successful. David did not presume on these instructions but made prayer for direction and strength a life pattern. 2 Sam. 2:1-4; 5:19; John 5:14-15; 1 Cor. 2:4

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Ask the Lord to fill your heart and your mind as you pray in the Spirit. Ask Him to share the burdens of His heart with your heart. Ask Him to kindle within you His love for others so that you will plead in prayer to God with great desire and love for them.

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**The Holy Spirit is only means by which we can truly worship!** The Holy Spirit not only draws our hearts to ascend into the presence of the LORD, He also fills us with a revelation of the glory of the LORD and leads us into true worship before His throne. In Heb. 9:14, the Spirit cleanse us from dead works to serve the Living God. The Word for “serve” means literally, to worship, to minister to God, to render homage. Eph. 5:18-20; John 4:23,24; Phil 3:3; Heb 9:14; Rev. 4

**He will disclose to us all that is to come.** He shares with us what God is going to do. He warns and gives us discernment. 1 Tim. 4:1; Rev. 2:7,11,17,29; 3:6; 3:13; 3:22; Amos 3:7; Isa. 46:9-10; Jer. 33:3; John 16:3; Prov. 3:32. Examples: Noah (Gen. 6:13); Abraham & Lot (Gen. 18:17); Joseph (41:30); Jonah 1:2 (Ninevah); Peter (Luke 22:30-32)

**The Holy Spirit leads us, gives us guidance and direction,** commands and exercises authority: Acts 13:2-4; Rom. 8:13,14,18; Luke 4:1; John 16:13; Acts 16:6-7

**Evidence of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives:**

- Holiness: 1 Peter 1:2; 1 Thes. 4:7-8
- By transformation: 2 Cor. 3:18
- We demonstrate the Lordship of Jesus by a yielded life: 1 Cor. 12:3; Rom. 12:1; 1 Thes. 5:19
- By liberty: 2 Cor. 3:17
- Fruits of the Spirit: Gal. 5:22-23;
- Joy Acts 13:52; Rom. 14:17; Luke 10:21

**Characteristics of the Filling of the Holy Spirit:** We are the temple for the Holy Spirit. The word for temple used in this context is "naos (Strong's 3485)." This word means dwelling place or inner sanctuary and refers to the Holy of Holies described in the Old Testament tabernacle or temple. This is the place where the Spirit of God resided to meet with the High Priest. Now, the veil is torn and the Holy Spirit comes to fill our bodies with the same glorious presence of His Spirit. When we are filled with the Spirit, His work is magnified in our lives, accomplishing more in a few moments than we can accomplish in months or years. His character is made manifest in our lives. People see there is a difference! 1 Cor. 6:19-20;

**He fills us and empowers us for service and ministry.** The Holy Spirit is the source of all power that we have to complete the same mighty works that Jesus did while He was on earth. The most common word for "power" in the New Testament is "dunamis" (Strong's #1411). This word is inherent or intrinsic power to make one capable or able, a Spirit of strength coming from the almighty energy of God. It speaks of the essential power that is intrinsic to God, the true nature or reality of His being. He gives us this power through the Holy Spirit and it is perfected in our weakness. It is the power that causes signs, wonders and miracles to follow those baptized in the Spirit. The primary purpose of that power is to witness. Acts 10:38; 2 Cor. 12:7; 1 Cor. 2:4 Ps. 62:11; Luke 1:35; Luke 4:14; Acts 10:38; Rom. 1:4; Acts 1:5, 8; 4:8, 31,33; 6:3, 5, 8; 13:9; John 14:12; Eph. 3:16; 5:18; Rom. 15:13

**He makes the Word alive to us.** He gives us an incredible love and hunger for His Word. The Holy Spirit speaks to our Spirit and teaches us spiritual truth that we cannot comprehend without Him. He matures us so that we can understand the 'meat' in His Word. 1 Cor. 1-2; John 3:8; 1 Cor. 2:12; Acts 4:29

**He puts His Words in our mouth, so that we may speak with power** as He gives us utterance. He anoints our words with power and with His Spirit so that our words carry full conviction when we speak the Gospel. Acts 2:4; 4:8; 6:3, 5; 13:9; 1 Thes. 1:5; 2 Cor. 2:4, 5

**He gives us greater boldness to witness:** The Spirit empowers us to take the focus off of ourselves and to have boldness to share the Gospel with clarity, simplicity and power. The word "boldness" (parresia Strong's 3954) describes a type of speech that which is filled with freedom and courage, fearless confidence, allowing unfettered eloquence, to declare openly and plainly without fear. Paul asked for prayer that he may "speak boldly, as I ought to speak." The word "ought" is packed with meaning in the Greek (dei Strong's 1163). It means to speak what is unavoidable, urgent, compulsory, necessity, "must" in the nature of things, necessity as established by the decree or counsel of God, especially for that purpose of His to the salvation of men." Acts 4:13, 29-31; Eph. 3:16-19; Eph. 6:17-20

**The Church is united through baptism in His Spirit**, to work together as the Body of Christ, for the sake of the Gospel. By the Holy Spirit we are baptized into the Body of Christ and made one with Jesus. The Spirit allows us to love and submit to one another in the fear of the Lord. John 7:38; Acts 1:5; Eph. 5: 18, 21; Acts 1:13; 2:4, 17, 33, 39, 11:15-16; 1 Cor. 2:12; 12:13; 2 Cor. 3:5-8; 12:26; Gal. 3:2-14; 3:27; 4:6 1 Pet. 3:3,23

**He equips us and leads us into battle using the Word of God.** The one offensive weapon in the Christian's spiritual armor is "the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." Eph. 6:17

**The Holy Spirit gives us gifts.** Even though the Spirit gives to each person what is needed for the edification of the Body, all of these gifts are from His Spirit and may be given to each one of us as we have need. Spiritual gifts are not earned, they are not a sign of maturity, and we must be careful not to allow them to become a source of pride. There are actually at least 17 gifts of the Spirit given in the New Testament. Can you find them? What purpose are these gifts to serve in the Body of Christ? See 1 Cor. 12:4-11, 27-31; Rom. 12:3-8; Eph. 4:7-11

### **How do we receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

**The Holy Spirit is a gift from the Father. Being filled with the Spirit cannot be bought or earned.** Read John 3:34 (Amp); Matt. 7:11; Luke 11:13; Acts 2:38; 10:45 and 1 Cor. 6:19. Meditate on the idea that the Holy Spirit is a gift from the Father. What do these verses teach you about receiving the Holy Spirit? Have you ever felt you needed to earn or be worthy in some way to receive the Holy Spirit? How does knowing God gives the Holy Spirit unsparingly give faith to believe God will give His Spirit if we ask? Acts 8:14-24

1. **We must want God more than anything else.** God will not put the fullness of His Spirit in the heart of a lukewarm or doubleminded believer. We must ask ourselves, do I desire His will, His honor, His glory, His praise more than anything else? Am I ready to give up everything in order to receive nothing less than everything? He must be our "all in all." Andrew Murray, in "The Full Blessing of Pentecost" stated, "God must again live wholly and entirely within us, and take inwardly and continuously the place which sin usurped. He that desires this change will rightly understand and desire the fullness of the Spirit and as he believes, he will most certainly receive it." 1 Cor. 15:28; Luke 9:33

In his book, "Keys to the Deeper Life," A.W. Tozer asks five questions of those who seek the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

- Are you sure you want to be possessed by a Spirit Who while He is pure and gentle and wise and loving, will also insist on being LORD of your life?
- Are you sure you want your personality to be taken over by One Who will require obedience to the written Word?
- Who will not tolerate any of the self-sins in your life: self-love, self-indulgence?
- Who will take the direction of your life away from you and will reserve that sovereign right to test you and discipline you?
- Who will strip away from you your many loved objects which secretly harm your soul?

He says if you do not eagerly answer yes to each question, you do not want to be filled with the Holy Spirit. If, on the other hand, your soul cries out for God, for the living God, and your dry and empty

heart despairs of living a normal Christian life without a further anointing, if your desire is all absorbing and fill you with an acute longing that can only be described as the pain of desire, then you are on the way to a spiritual breakthrough that will transform your whole life.

LORD, I come to you with humble and joyful thanksgiving, confessing everything You have given me, You are all I need. I believe Your promise that You will work all in me. Yes, ALL in me! LORD, I lay down everything at Your feet and offer up all things to You. I want to give You total freedom to be all and do all in Me. I want You to reign and rule over all in my life. I want to hold nothing back.”

2. **Put no confidence in the flesh.** As long as we believe we can “get by” without Him, we won’t be desperate for Him. We need to confess that apart from Him we can do nothing. We need to die to self, crucify the flesh and forsake all reliance on the world. He must increase, we must decrease. Ask the LORD to empty ourselves, to put to death “self,” and surrender all we are to Him. We need to pray not only for ourselves but for the Church to cease from our own activities and reliance on the flesh to lean completely on the LORD. John 3:30-34; 1 John 2:15-16; John 15:5; Rom. 12:1-2

3. **Ask. God wants us to ask and keep on asking.** He moves in response to our cries. He moves when we want Him enough to ask. Luke 11:13; 1 John 5:14; 1 John 3:22; Matt. 7:7-12; Luke 11:5-13 (specifically the Holy Spirit).

4. **We receive the Holy Spirit through faith** in the same way we receive our salvation. When we ask, He will give the Spirit to us without sparing. We need to hold fast and believe His promises. Do you believe it is the will of God for you to be filled with His Spirit? Do you believe you can be filled? Do you believe His Word and promises to give the gift of the Spirit if we ask? Do you believe the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is part of God’s full plan of redemption for the work of the Church? Gal. 3:2, 14; John 20:22

5. **We must be willing to obey what He tells us to do.** We may not always understand what He is telling us to do, but it will never be contrary to His Word. Acts 5:32; John 2:5

6. **Prayer and Laying on of Hands:** Fast and pray and meditate on God’ Word and promises. Seek Him with your whole heart. The Holy Spirit does not come upon us automatically. In the book of Acts, the disciples waited and prayed for ten days for Pentecost. There were those they found who believed and were baptized in Jesus name, but who had not received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The disciples prayed for them and laid hands upon them and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Acts 8:14-20

7. **Constantly seek to be filled with His Spirit.** We need to pray without ceasing, asking the LORD for fresh power, fresh courage, and fresh fire from the Holy Spirit on a daily basis. Acts 4:23-31

*What is the Lord speaking to your heart?*

*Response to the LORD*