

# Experience the Power of the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you ... NIV

As you believe in Christ you have His **righteousness** as a **gift** (Rom 5:17). Hence, you can receive His Holy Spirit **worthily**. Christ gives you His Spirit to **empower** you.

John 7:38-39

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow Rivers of Living Water. NKJV

His power can be released from your life, like **rivers flowing from the inside out**, so that you can **impact lives** and the situation around you.

We heard this amazing testimony: A couple had an aunt with a serious kidney condition. One of her kidneys had been removed and she was still in a critical condition.

One night at 2.00 a.m., both the husband and wife had a burden to pray. They prayed in tongues for her until they felt the peace of God. Several days later, they took their aunt for a medical check-up. The doctors found two kidneys. They asked: "Didn't we remove one of the kidneys?" God **recreated** a new kidney. What was even more amazing was that they found the two kidneys to be brand new!

Acts 2:4

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues (language) ... NKJV

**One of the rivers** is the gift of speaking in tongues, an unknown language. Years ago when I was ministering in Finland, the Lutheran priest heard me speaking in perfect Finnish, interpreting a dream for a young man. They were amazed.

The **more** you pray in the Holy Spirit, the more you **experience** His amazing power:

## 1. Power to know Christ intimately

John 15:26

... He (The Holy Spirit) shall **testify** of **me**. KJV

One of the **clearest signs** that someone is filled with the Holy Spirit is whether he is **Christ-centered** and not focused on himself or any *bizarre* manifestations of the spirit. The Holy Spirit helps you to **know Christ more intimately**. As a result, **grace and peace** will be **multiplied** in your life.

2 Peter 1:2

2 Grace and peace be **multiplied** to you in the **knowledge** of God and of Jesus our Lord. NKJV

Grace is not just something beautiful or aesthetic. It is **God's channel of blessings and enabling power**. "His grace toward me was **not in vain**; but I labored **more abundantly**." 1 Cor 15:10

## 2. Power to know who you are in Christ

Romans 8:16-17

16 The Spirit himself **testifies** with our spirit that we are **God's children**. 17 Now if we are children, then we are **heirs** - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ ... NIV

Your **greatest temptation** is to doubt **who you are in Christ**. When Jesus was being tempted, He was told **if He was really** the Son, He should turn the stones into bread. What was also removed was the word "beloved". Luke 4:3

Romans 6:14

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law (Mosaic) but **under grace**. NKJV

The more you **receive grace** and **see who you are in Christ**, the more you will be able to **overcome** sin. In fact you will **do more** than what is required. We see how Zacchaeus, gave away half of his wealth and restored fourfold to those he had cheated **after having been touched** by grace. Luke 19:2-3

1 Corinthians 2:12

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might **know** the things that have been **freely** (with grace) **given** to us by God. NKJV

The Holy Spirit helps you to **freely receive by grace** what **Christ has purchased for you**. If you focus on your self and self-effort, you will **miss** the much more surpassing favor and blessings that God has prepared for you in Christ. "Did you receive the Spirit by the **works** of the law (Mosaic), or by the **hearing of faith**?" Gal 3:2-5 NKJV

## 3. Power to overcome your weaknesses

Romans 8:26

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. NKJV

**Weakness:** ἀσθενεία means: **sicknesses, infirmities, impotence, and weaknesses**. We see amazing testimonies of people being **supernaturally healed** as they pray in the Holy Spirit.

The Rev. Col Stringer shared the story of a doctor, not a believer, who sought to discredit the credibility and power of Christians praying in tongues. He carried out some elaborate tests and discovered that when his patients prayed in tongues, their blood pressure went down significantly, their stress levels went down and body immunity increased by 40%. This doctor ended up believing.

Galatians 5:16

... **Walk** in the Spirit, and **you shall not** fulfil the lust (desires) of the sinful nature. NKJV JY

Ezekiel 36:27

27 "And I will put My Spirit within you and **CAUSE** you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. NASB

John 14:26

26 But the **Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach (**tutor, influence, guide**) you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. NKJV

He does not **condemn** you nor give you any **excuses** but **shows you the way out** of your weaknesses. The word, "helper", refers to one that **stands alongside** you. The Holy Spirit is standing alongside you to help you if you would only allow Him to. He will **never leave you** (John 14:16; Heb 13:5). You **do not need** to fear Him when you have sinned. In fact, you **need Him more** to help you overcome.

2 Corinthians 3:18

18 But we all, with unveiled face, **beholding** as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being **transformed** into the same image from glory to glory, just as **by the Spirit** of the Lord. NKJV

The more we behold Him, the more we will be **transformed by His Spirit**.

## 4. Power to prosper with Wisdom and to be sensitive to His leading

John 16:13

13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into **all** truth. NIV

This word, "all" includes **all the information and wisdom** you need for your studies, business, family and relationships. The **first gift** of the Holy Spirit is wisdom. The **first description** of the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Wisdom. 1 Cor 12:8-9; Isa 11:2 "Wisdom is the **principal** thing; get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding." Prov 4:7 NKJV

Your **main problem** may **not** be a money problem, family problem or relationship problem. It may well be a **wisdom problem**. Wisdom is **not just knowledge or information or experience**. Wisdom is a **person**. You need to have a **vibrant relationship** with the Holy Spirit. How? **Pray** in the Holy Spirit! As you pray in the Spirit, you enter His **rest** and **receive** His wisdom, discernment, knowledge and creative ideas. You will be **sensitive** to His leading.

### How do I know if an idea is from God?

The **Word** (God will not contradict His Word) and the **Peace** inside you.

Philippians 4:6-7

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the **peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. NKJV

Do not be **misled** by spectacular signs and wonders which can be imitated. The **peace inside you cannot be imitated**.

1 Kings 19:12 ... the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still **small voice** (*gentle whisper*). KJV NIV

### What do you do when you feel no peace?

It is an indication from God that the path you want to take is **wrong** or of the wrong **timing**.

## 5. Power to shape your life with your prayers

1 Corinthians 14:4

4 He who speaks in a tongue **edifies himself**. NKJV  
Gk: to edify οἰκοδομῶ: **building or rebuilding** a house. It could be your physical **body**, your **relationship**, your **business** or even your future **spouse**. Praying in tongues is a powerful **personal** gift. It ministers to **you** by **building you** up.

Acts 2:7-11

11 ... we hear them **declaring** the wonders of God in our own tongues!" NIV

God has a plan for you but the devil also has a plan. When you pray in tongues, **you are enforcing** God's plan and going against the plan of the enemy. He can't even **begin** to operate!

Romans 8:26

For **we do not know what we should pray** for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with **groanings** which cannot be uttered. NKJV

When you pray in tongues, you pray the **perfect prayer** for the situation. Sometimes, you feel an **unexplainable heaviness** in your heart. Don't worry. You don't have a psychological problem. It may be a **warning** or a call for you to **pray**. God is alerting you to a **scheme** of the enemy. Pray in the Spirit until you have the **peace**, indicating you have **victory** over the evil plan.

The beautiful thing is that you **don't have to stop** what you are doing. Just pray **under your breath** while you are working or even driving. Just make sure to keep your eyes open.

#### 1 Corinthians 14:14

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. NKJV

Literally: **Mind is not active**. Is it *strange* not to understand what we are praying? It is in fact a  **blessing**. If we know everything that the devil has planned, we will be filled with **anxieties** all the time. We may even **aggravate** the situation by doing the **wrong** thing. Dr Cho of Korea used to say, "I close my eyes all the time. If I open my eyes, I will be **distressed**; but when I close my eyes, I am **at rest**".

#### Why do we pray in tongues in church when there is no interpretation? (1 Cor 14:28)

There are different types of tongues (1 Cor 12:4-11). When it is a **worship** tongue, you are addressing God and there is no need for any interpretation. You are speaking the "wonderful things God has done". Acts 2:11 NLT.

Sometimes, the Holy Spirit will lead you to **groan** as if laboring in childbirth, "with **groanings** which cannot be uttered."

"...whole creation groans and labors with **birth pangs**." **Even** we ourselves groan, eagerly waiting for the **redemption** of our body." Rom 8:26,22,23 NKJV

Groaning prayer "gives birth" to **new breakthroughs** in every area of your life. Before Jesus **launched out** into His three years of ministry, He went through a period of **intense** prayer.

In the garden of **Gethsemane**, Jesus prayed with **intense groaning** and agony before He took on the cross and achieved the **greatest breakthrough** for us, Luke 22:44. The agony can be so intense like one giving birth. Do not be frightened. Jesus also prayed with great intensity and groaning. "He offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears ... save him from death." Heb 5:7 KJV

Such groaning prayer often results in a **great harvest of souls**, "giving birth" to new souls. It is also a means of praying for them to grow into **maturity**. "My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you," Galatians 4:19 NKJV

### 6. Power to **stir up** the other gifts of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 The **Spiritual gifts** of wisdom, knowledge, faith, healings, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit will empower you to do things **beyond your natural ability** in **every** area of your life, including your **business** and **relationships**.

#### 1 Corinthians 14:18

I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all. NKJV

Paul is one of the greatest apostles. I believe one of the reasons is that he prayed in tongues all the time! **Praying more does not earn you the blessings of God but it helps you to take advantage of the closeness that is already there.**

One of the best ways to pray long in tongues is to pray **under your breath, quietly**, so that you can pray long hours throughout the day, even when you are working. You become **sensitive** to the operation of the Holy Spirit.

### 7. Power to **rest** in the Spirit and **prosper**

#### Hebrews 4:3

3 For we who have believed do enter that rest. NKJV

#### Jesus died to bring you that rest so that you can be **blest**.

The first drop of blood was shed in the garden. One of the first areas that God wants to restore is your **'field'**, your work place. The key is to receive His rest. **The place of rest is the place of blessings**. That is the reason why the enemy will do everything to keep you from that rest.

#### 1 Chronicles 22:8-9

9 But you will have a son who will be a man of peace and rest, ... His name will be Solomon, and I will grant peace and quiet during his reign. NIV

**You can't build anything great** in life if you are always **defending** and **fighting**.

#### Proverbs 25:28

28 Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls. NKJV

In this imperfect world, there are many **opportunities to be upset and to be hurt**. We hurt ourselves **further** by **basing** our **self-worth and happiness** on what people **say** or **do**. We **wear** ourselves down, trying to **fight** and to **defend** ourselves. But one area we are **allowed** to strive is to **strive to enter** that rest (Heb 4:11).

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt 11:28 NKJV **Rest is easy** if you learn to come to Jesus and not rely on your **human** effort to **rest**. All you need to do is to **come** and **He** will **give** you that rest. One of the best ways to rest is to pray in the Holy Spirit. **Rivers of joy** will flow out in the midst of dry and hard ground. Your peace will amaze even your enemy.

One of the best things to do in a demonic **oppressive** environment is to **pray and sing in the Holy Spirit**, instead of wearing yourself down by praying aggressively. "I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise." Psalms 138:1 NIV

**As you rest, you receive more Rhema** Word, the right word for the hour - creative ideas.

#### Ephesians 6:17-18

17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word (**rhema**) of God. 18 And (Gk: δια **by means of**) pray in the Spirit on all occasions ... NIV

To rest is not **inactivity** but **directed activity**. The Holy Spirit will guide you to work things out in a most creative way.

**As you rest, you keep yourself in Christ's love which empowers** your life and work.

#### Romans 5:5

... the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. KJV

#### Jude 20-21

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God. NKJV

#### Ephesians 5:15-22

15 Be very careful, then, how you live-not as unwise but as wise, 16 **making the most of every opportunity**, because the days are evil. 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled (controlled) with the Spirit. 19 Speaking to yourselves in **psalms and hymns and spiritual songs**, singing and **making melody with your heart** to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks **always** for all things unto God ... NIV/KJV/NASB

**You make melody. You do not need to scream**. How many of you would take your loved one to the park and scream, "I love you!" No, you say gently that you love her. In the same way, we sing and make melody to the Lord.

#### 1 Corinthians 14:15

I will sing with the **spirit**, and I will also sing with the **understanding**. NKJV

**Keep yourself focused by praying and singing in tongues, and singing some great hymns or choruses** (Eph 5:19). When you praise, you **focus** on His **greatness** and **power** and **faith is released**. And you also **release angels** to work on your behalf. Psalms 103:20

## HOW TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

#### Acts 2:4

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues (language) ... NKJV

#### Rest in His Grace

Romans 5:17 God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness ... NIV

**Put away all fear**. "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ... how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" Luke 11:11-13 NIV

#### Thirst and hunger for His presence and fullness

John 7:37 ... If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. NKJV

#### Step out in faith and speak out

#### Matthew 14:28-29

"Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And **when Peter had come down** out of the boat, he **walked on** the water. NKJV

**As Peter took the step of faith** and landed on the water, the power of God pushed him up and he walked on the water!

You will sense a **deep prompting** or an **urge** to speak. Take a step of faith and speak out by faith any **syllables** that come to your mind. It may sound **funny** but that **step** of faith eventually releases a **flow** of words. "**They** began to **speak** with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4 NKJV