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## — OUTLINE —

- I. God wants you baptized in the Holy Spirit!
  - A. His longing to fill, control, and empower you far surpasses your desire to be filled, controlled, and empowered.
  - B. In fact, the Holy Spirit has been eagerly waiting for you to open your heart and invite Him in.
  - C. Some groups erroneously teach that you must “travail” and wait on God to receive this experience.
  - D. This idea is based upon a misinterpretation of Acts 1:4-5, which says,

*And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.*
  - E. Jesus commanded the disciples to wait for the baptism because the Holy Spirit had not yet been poured out upon the earth.
  - F. Pentecost was God’s appointed time to pour out the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1 and 4).
  - G. Since He’s already been given, there’s no need to wait!
  - H. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a *gift*, not something you can earn by travail or holiness (Luke 11:13).
  - I. If you could rid yourself of all the sin in your life and be perfect before receiving the Holy Spirit, you wouldn’t need Him!
- II. You need to desire the baptism in the Holy Spirit wholeheartedly.
  - A. If you are persuaded and hungry, receiving can be as simple as praying a prayer.
  - B. Occasionally, someone needs a period of time to grow in their hunger and desire to receive.
  - C. Where are you today?
  - D. Are you ready to commit yourself to the Holy Spirit without reservation?
  - E. Perhaps you’ve even recited a prayer for this before but weren’t really ready yet.
  - F. However, after learning these truths—how you’ll receive power, that this was something even Jesus had to have, that it totally transformed the apostles—you’re ready to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

## III. God wants you filled, but you must reach out in faith to take it!

*For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*

LUKE 11:10-13

A. Ask, believe, and receive!

B. If you're ready, pray out loud the following prayer from your heart:

***“Father, I surrender to You completely. I recognize my need for Your power to live the Christian life. Please baptize me in Your Holy Spirit!”***

***“By faith, I receive now the baptism in the Holy Spirit. I take it! It’s mine in Jesus’s name!”***

***“Father, thank You for giving me the Holy Spirit! Holy Spirit, thank You for coming. You are welcome in my life!”***

C. Some people have dramatic experiences receiving the Holy Spirit, and others are genuinely baptized without feeling a thing.

D. One's not better than the other, as long as you received!

E. Don't let outward manifestations, or a lack thereof, enable the devil to talk you out of this gift from God (Matt. 13:19).

F. If you believed in your heart when you prayed, then God's Word promises that you received—**“Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them”** (Mark 11:24).

G. Congratulations! You've been filled with God's supernatural power!

H. As you learn to tap into this power, your life will never be the same.

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## DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

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1. God wants you baptized in the Holy Spirit! His longing to fill, control, and empower you far surpasses what?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
2. True or false: The Holy Spirit has been eagerly waiting for you to open your heart and invite Him in.
  
3. What do some groups erroneously teach?
  - A. You can receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit anytime after you are born again
  - B. Moses was reincarnated as a dog
  - C. You must "travail" and wait on God to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit
  - D. All of the above
  - E. None of the above
  
4. Why did Jesus command the disciples to wait for the baptism?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ was God's appointed time to pour out the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1 and 4).
  
6. Is the baptism in the Holy Spirit something you can earn by travail or holiness (Luke 11:13)?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
7. You wouldn't need the Holy Spirit if you could do what?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
8. You need to desire the baptism in the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_.

- 9 . If you are persuaded and hungry, receiving can be as simple as...
- A. Standing on your head
  - B. Praying a prayer
  - C. Engaging in spiritual warfare
  - D. All of the above
  - E. None of the above
10. True or False: Occasionally, someone needs a period of time to grow in their hunger and desire to receive.
11. Luke 11:10-13 says, **“For every one that asketh \_\_\_\_\_; and he that seeketh \_\_\_\_\_; and to him that knocketh it shall be \_\_\_\_\_. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your \_\_\_\_\_ give the Holy Spirit to them that \_\_\_\_\_ him?”**
12. Some people have dramatic experiences receiving the Holy Spirit, and others are genuinely baptized without feeling a thing—is one better than the other, as long as you received?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
13. What does God’s Word promise you in Mark 11:24?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## — SCRIPTURES —

### ACTS 1:4-5

And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. [5] For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

### ACTS 2:1

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

### ACTS 2:4

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

### LUKE 11:10-13

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. [11] If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? [12] Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? [13] If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

### MATTHEW 13:19

When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

### MARK 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

### JOHN 20:22

And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.