



# **The Christian Life**

**Module 9**

*The Baptism in the  
Holy Spirit*

## MODULE NINE

# *The Baptism in the Holy Spirit*

### INTRODUCTION

Sometime around 800 B.C a prophet of Israel by the name of Joel prophesied the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit. God, speaking through him. Said, "Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions. In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants - men and women alike." (Joel 2:28-29).

Time passed, but God had not forgotten His promise. Some 800 years later Jesus Christ also prophesied the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. He said, "On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart' (John 7:37-39). John adds that Jesus was referring to the Holy Spirit, "**who would be given to everyone believing in him**".

After His death and resurrection, while still on earth, Jesus reiterated the promised of Joel and His own prophecy, telling the disciples, "And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven" (Luke 24:49). And again, Luke writes, "Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. John baptised with water, but in just a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:4-5).

**And just as sure as God loves each one of us, He kept His promise.** In the second chapter of Acts, Luke records the story of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. "Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability" (Acts 2:2-4).

Strangely, some of those who heard the disciples speaking in various languages thought they were drunk. But Peter assured them that what they were hearing was the fulfilment of Joel's prophecy. He said, "No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel" (Acts 2:16). He then told the crowd how Jesus Christ was sent from God to die for their sins, and that anyone who received Jesus as Saviour would also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. "**This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away** - all who have been called by the Lord our God" (Acts 2:39).

God's promises have never failed for those who trust in Jesus, but the history of Christianity records the tragic fact of a scarcity of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit down through the centuries because of the darkness of unbelief and the bondage of legalism.

**But in these last days, twenty centuries since Pentecost, men and women all over the world, Christians of every denomination, are once again experiencing a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit.**

Being filled with the Holy Spirit is one of the most exciting and life-changing experiences a person can ever have. The purpose of this lesson is to help you understand the meaning of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and to show you the many ways God can use a person who is Spirit-filled.

Some of you taking this course have possibly never heard of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, while others of you may have been filled with the Spirit for many years. We believe God has something for each of you in this lesson. We will conclude by telling you how one can receive this blessed experience. May God give all of your new understanding as you study.

## 1. THE HOLY SPIRIT

Before we discuss the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, it is important that you have a good understanding of the nature and work of the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, the Church has sometimes neglected biblical teachings on this subject. Yet the Holy Spirit is **no less important** as a member of the Trinity than God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son.

### **STUDY John 16:7-14.**

The first important fact to note is that Jesus used the pronouns “He” and “Him” when referring to the Holy Spirit. Granted, the Holy Spirit can be neither touched nor seen. But He has many qualities and characteristics which definitely stamp Him as a **person** as we would think of a person in human terms.

**(NOTE:** Use of the word “person” in referring to God and the Holy Spirit is not entirely satisfactory since persons have human limitations. However, the Bible itself uses a number of anthropomorphic (ascribing human characteristics to nonhuman things) terms when speaking of God and the Holy Spirit, and therefore “person” seems to be the best way of referring to them).

### **Attributes of the Holy Spirit**

According to the Bible, the Holy Spirit has a **mind** (Romans 8:27), **feeling** (Ephesians 4:30), and a **will** (1 Corinthians 12:11). Thus, He is not some impersonal power force or a mere ‘manifestation of God’ as some people think. **Rather, He, like Jesus, is a unique person, separate and distinct from God and yet in perfect unity, harmony, and cooperation with the Father.** The Holy Spirit along with God and Jesus exist and function as a unit, a Godhead, or, as they are commonly called, a Trinity.

Moreover, the Holy Spirit, again like Jesus, is a **divine**, eternal being, having always been in existence. Hebrews 9:14 calls Him the “eternal Spirit”, teaching us that **He always has been, is, and always will be.**

### **Works of the Holy Spirit.**

The works of the Holy Spirit are many and varied. In the very first passage of the Scripture we see Him at work. Genesis 1:2 says, “the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.” He was active in Creation with God and Jesus, and He has been active ever since in the affairs of man, **diligently working to draw men to God.**

In our study passage several works of the Holy Spirit are listed.

First of all, it is His job to convict the world of its **sin**, God’s **righteousness**, and of the coming **judgment**. Also, He is the one who teaches us truth (see also John 14:26) and **guides** us in God’s will for our lives. His main purpose is to **glorify Christ** so that all men and women might know Him as Saviour.

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a term which designates the Holy Spirit’s active and powerful work within us and through us enabling us to be effective Christian witnesses. He is our **strength** and our **power**. Without His help we wouldn’t get very far in our own Christian lives or in our outreach as soul-winners.

**Thank God for the Holy Spirit!** He has not abandoned us to the futility of being Christians (in every sense of the word!) by our own power, but rather it is through the power of the Holy Spirit within us that we can be all that God wants us to be and do all that He wants us to do. **Praise God for the blessed Holy Spirit.**

## 2. WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BAPTISED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

**STUDY John 3:5-6, Romans 8:9-11, and 1 Corinthians 12:3.**

We want to make it clear that **all Christians have the Holy Spirit living within them.** Our bodies are the very **temples of the Holy Spirit.** It was the Holy Spirit who drew us to Christ, the Holy Spirit who brought about our transformation from darkness to light, and the Holy Spirit who now lives within us, helping us live holy and righteous lives.

But the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is an experience in the Spirit, which, although it might occur at the moment of salvation, is **distinct from salvation.** Now we shall explain that from the Scriptures.

**STUDY Mark 1:7-8 and Acts 1:4-5.**

Before we discuss the theology of the experience, let's look at the term "baptism." The Greek word literally means "immersion." It carries the connotation of being dipped, drenched, or soaked. The word is used in the New Testament in several ways, notably referring to water baptism and the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. On occasion it is used in a general sense of being fully **involved** in something.

Used in regard to the Holy Spirit, it refers to being **fully immersed** in the Holy Spirit. The phrase is always in the dative case in Greek, meaning not a baptism **of** the Holy Spirit in possessive sense, but rather **in** the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist made it clear that **the Holy Spirit is not the Baptiser, but Jesus is.** This is an important point to remember.

**Thus, in salvation, the Holy Spirit is active, drawing us to Christ, who is passive. But in the experience of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit the reverse is true. Jesus, the Baptiser, fills us with the Holy Spirit, who is passive.**

**Study 1 Corinthians 12:13.**

Some believe the Baptism in the Holy Spirit occurs automatically at the moment of salvation, basing this view on the above verse. But a careful study of the verse shows us that is not true.

Paul says that the Holy Spirit "baptised" every Christian "into one body." Baptism here is used as a **general term**, referring to the Holy Spirit's work of bringing us into **Christ and into one body of believers.** Here the Holy Spirit is active effecting a spiritual transformation.

### **Being Filled with the Holy Spirit**

But, as we have seen, when a person is baptised in the Holy Spirit **Jesus is active**, filling us with the power of the Holy Spirit. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is not something the Holy Spirit brings us into, but is rather **an experience in which He is brought into our lives in a greater dimension.**

Furthermore, this powerful dimension in the Holy Spirit is not automatic. It can occur at salvation, but more often than not it occurs later. The Book of Acts makes this clear. The following SELF-STUDY is a good example of a group of Christians who were baptised in the Holy Spirit sometime **after** they were saved.

## SELF-STUDY #1

**STUDY Acts 8:4-17 and carefully think through each question.**

- (a) What did Philip preach in Samaria? \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) What sort of miracles occurred in Samaria? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (c) What one word describes the atmosphere of the city? \_\_\_\_\_
- (d) Did the people receive Jesus Christ as Saviour? \_\_\_\_\_
- (e) What does the word 'baptised' in vs. 12 & 13 refer to? \_\_\_\_\_
- (f) Why did Peter and John go to Samaria? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- (g) Had any of the new Christians yet been baptised in the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_
- (h) How did they receive the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 

### **STUDY Acts 19:1-7.**

Here is another example of people who were baptised in the Holy Spirit **after** they were saved. Although they may have had some belief in Jesus, these disciples were evidently not Christians when Paul discovered them. They were disciples of John the Baptist and had never even heard of the Holy Spirit. However, it is important to note that Paul, who at first thought they were Christians, asked the question, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" He would not have asked them that **unless there was a possibility that they had not been filled with** the Holy Spirit.

In fact, when Paul told them of Jesus and they received Him into their hearts and were baptized in water, they **still had not been filled with the Holy Spirit. They were not baptised in the Holy Spirit until** Paul laid **his hands on them**, just as Peter and John did with new Christians in Samaria.

In concluding this section on the meaning of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, we should note the following four important points:

- (1) It is an **immersion in the power of the Holy Spirit.**
- (2) It is an experience **distinct from salvation.**
- (3) It does **not necessarily** occur at the moment of salvation.
- (4) It is for **all Christians** (Acts 2:17 and 39).

### 3. THE PURPOSE OF THE BAPTISM

#### **STUDY Acts 1:8.**

While there are several benefits of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, **the supreme purpose of the experience is to make us bold and powerful witnesses for Jesus Christ.** Some people confuse other works of the Holy Spirit with the purpose of the Baptism, but Jesus' words are clear: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Let's see exactly what this means.

First of all, it means that Jesus hasn't left us to try to convert the world on our own - an impossible task to be sure. Rather, He has sent the Holy Spirit to **speak and act through us with the very power of God.**

#### **STUDY Acts 2:14, 32-33, and 36-42.**

Remember Peter, the once zealous apostle who denied Jesus three times out of fear for his life? But look where we find him just a few weeks later. **Having been filled with the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost,** he is now **not afraid** to stand up before several thousand Jews and tell them that Jesus they murdered was resurrected by God to sit at His right hand in Heaven. He goes on to emphasize that if they want to be saved they will have to repent of their sins and receive Jesus - the Christ, or Messiah - into their hearts.

What was the result of his message? Verse 41 says **3000 people received Jesus Christ as Saviour!**

We would not pretend to claim that by being baptised in the Holy Spirit you will become a mighty preacher like Peter (although in some cases that might be true!). However, we will make the claim that by being filled with the Holy Spirit **you will have the boldness and power to witness for Jesus at home, at work, or wherever you happen to be.** That is the supreme purpose of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

#### **STUDY 1 Corinthians 2:1-5.**

When Paul evangelised the Mediterranean world, he did not labour under the limitations of human capabilities. Rather, he preached "Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified" in the demonstration of the Spirit and power. He was a dynamic example of the Spirit-filled life, and the Book of Acts records the many miracles wrought through him.

You may not be another Apostle Paul, but the same spiritual resources that were available to him are still available to you today. You can witness for Christ in the "power of the Holy Spirit." **This is the very purpose of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit - to make us channels for God's supernatural wisdom and power.**

## 4. THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

### STUDY 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.

When one is baptised in the Holy Spirit, he opens his life to the nine **spiritual gifts** which Paul discusses here. Before we look at each gift, let's set a few facts straight concerning them.

First of all, the gifts are by no means the only way in which the Holy Spirit works through us. The Holy Spirit's ministry is rich and varied, and He cannot be limited to any one means of drawing men to Christ and enabling them to live for Him. Nevertheless, the spiritual gifts are an important element for the Spirit-filled life, for they are the means by which we, as Paul, can minister in the "power of the Holy Spirit".

Paul refers to these nine gifts as **spiritual** gifts, thereby making a clear distinction between them and other gifts mentioned in the New Testament. In Lesson Six we looked at some of the **ministry gifts** listed in Romans 12. Paul also tells us that Christ has given all believers gifts in Ephesians 4:7-16. These gifts refer to **ministries** or **works** - to what we **are** in the body of Christ, or to what jobs God has given us to **do**.

### Supernatural Gifts of the Spirit

The spiritual gifts, however, are neither ministries nor works. They are **supernatural gifts which belong to the Holy Spirit** and which are distributed according to His will (1 Corinthians 12:7 & 11). God will use these gifts through us for **they are the sole possession of the Holy Spirit**.

Therefore, it is important that we understand these gifts as **supernatural**. They are in no way human. They cannot be learned or manufactured by the human mind or spirit. They are and always will be the very unique and special property of the Holy Spirit Himself.

Now let us see what each of these gifts are.

The nine spiritual gifts are generally broken down into three categories of three gifts each. The first category is **gift of revelation**, and these refer to things the Holy Spirit reveals to our minds.

(1) **The word of wisdom (wise advice)**. This gift is extremely important in preaching, teaching, witnessing and counselling. It is the Holy Spirit's way of letting us know what to do, or what to **say** and the proper time to do so. It can include a right course of action for our own lives, or how and when to minister to others. Remember, the **word of wisdom is divine wisdom**, and does not refer to the wisdom of man in any way.

(2) **The word of knowledge**. Refers to any **fact** which is known supernaturally. It can be a past, current, or future event or a fact about most anything. This gift is valuable in witnessing and counselling, for the Holy Spirit often gives us information which enables us to effectively minister to those in need.

(3) **The ability to discern between spirits**. Basically, the ability to discern evil spirits. It is not limited to the discernment of demon possession in unbelievers, but also includes the discerning of evil spirits who are misleading Christians, notably false teachers, in

what they do and say. Christians can be **deceived** and **led** by Satan or an evil spirit in many ways.

The second category of gifts is called the **power gifts**.

(1) **The gift of faith.** Is the special ability that God gives to some to discern with extraordinary confidence the will and purposes of God for the future of His work. They are goal-centred possibility thinkers, undaunted by circumstances or suffering or obstacles. They, like Noah, can build an ark on dry ground in the face of ridicule and criticism, with no doubt at all that God is going to send a flood.

(2) **Gifts of healing.** These are generally believed to refer to physical healing but might also include emotional and mental healing. Healing is usually administered through the laying on of hands, but can also be given through the spoken prophetic word.

(3) **The working of miracles.** The meaning of this gift is obvious, but what is not so obvious to some is that **miracles are still being performed today**. Those who deny the existence of miracles in our modern world are denying the power of God today.

The last category of spiritual gifts is known as the **gifts of utterance**. Some Christians have made these gifts the most important, while others have relegated them to insignificance. **Actually, all the gifts are important**. Nowhere in the New Testament does it say that one gift or class of gifts is more important than any other. Each is given by the Holy Spirit at a certain time to meet a specific need. Such is the case with the gifts of utterance.

(1) **Prophecy.** Is the special ability God gives a Christian to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely-anointed word. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 14:3, "But one who prophesies strengthens others, encourages them, and comforts them." A prophecy, then, may simply be a direct word of comfort, edification, and exhortation from the Lord.

(2) **Tongues (unknown languages).** Firstly, it is the ability to speak to God in a language you have never learned. The main purpose of the gift is for personal, spiritual edification (1 Corinthians 14:4). When a person prays in tongues, the Holy Spirit is at the same time ministering to his spirit, even though he does not understand the language.

Secondly, it is to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely-anointed word in a language you have never learned. This is a **message** or **praise**, generally when two or more believers are present. An Interpreter is necessary to understand a message or praise in tongues.

(3) **Interpretation of Tongues.** Merely the Holy Spirit's interpretation, in the listener's language, of the message or praise in tongues, so that those for whom the message is intended may respond and be blessed or join in praise to God.

Generally, when spoken devotionally and privately, tongues are not meant to be interpreted. But in a public meeting God may speak through the dual gifts of tongues and interpretation of tongues.

This ends our discussion of the spiritual gifts. We regret that space forbids expanded discussion of each. However, at this point you should note and remember two facts concerning the spiritual gifts.

(a) All of these gifts are **supernatural**, belonging solely to the Holy Spirit, who **distributes them to us according to His will**.

(b) All Spirit-filled Christians **can have** these gifts operating in their lives as the Holy Spirit finds a need arising.

## 5. THE RESULTS OF BEING BAPTISED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

As we have seen, the main purpose of the Baptism is to equip us with power to communicate Jesus Christ to a lost world, and to minister to one another as members of the body of Christ. But there is more.

### **STUDY John 16:7-14.**

Someone has said that being baptised in the Holy Spirit is like getting **more of Jesus in one's life**. How true that is. Jesus, in fact, said. "it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you". Jesus could not be everywhere at once when He was on earth. But the Holy Spirit can be. **And more of the Holy Spirit means that we also experience Jesus in a richer and fuller way.**

### **STUDY Galatians 5:16-26.**

Another benefit of being filled with the Spirit is that the fruits of the Spirit become more pronounced in our lives. For instance, it is **generally true** that when a person is filled with the Holy Spirit he or she **experiences more love for God and his or her fellow men.**

### **A Word of Caution**

However, we need to be cautious in thinking that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit will automatically bestow upon us the fruits of the Spirit. There have been, sadly, some Spirit-filled believers who have become puffed up because of their experiences, thus causing their lives to become devoid of love. We need to keep in mind Paul's profound observation, "If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, **but didn't love others, I would be nothing**" (1 Corinthians 13:2).

Still others have openly persisted in sin while at the same time speaking in tongues, prophesying, and healing the sick! This is what happened in the Corinthian church in Paul's day as well as among some Spirit-filled believers today. **To say the least, some Christians have made a mockery of both the Holy Spirit and their Baptiser and Saviour, Jesus.**

What's going on? Why are some Spirit-filled Christians living as though God didn't exist while others have forsaken sinful habits and are living fruit-filled, righteous lives?

The answer is simply this: **Righteousness and the fruits of the Spirit have their source in the commitment of one's life to Christ, not in the Baptism.**

In Lesson Six we discussed at length how commitment to Christ enables us to conquer sin. Paul pointed out in Romans 8 that man can either do the works of the sinful nature, or the works of the Holy Spirit. In Galatians 5 he again contrasts the desires of the sinful nature with the desires of the Spirit. After listing many sins, he then lists the fruit of the Spirit. His conclusion is that those who are living and walking by the Spirit have crucified the sinful nature (which Jesus did for us on the Cross).

We want to emphasise again that righteousness and the fruits of the Spirit come from commitment to Christ. These fruits grow in the believer's life from the moment of salvation. On the other hand, **we cannot grow spiritual gifts.** The very meaning of the

word “gift” signifies that the gifts of the Holy Spirit can only be given. The purpose of the Baptism is to give us these spiritual gifts, not to grow the fruits of the Spirit in our lives.

Why then do the fruits often **instantaneously appear** in the lives of those who have been baptised in the Holy Spirit? And why are many able to overcome sin once they have received the experience? What has happened?

First of all, many persons, probably the majority, are so hungry for the things of God and for more of Jesus that they commit their lives 100% to Christ either before or immediately after they are filled with the Holy Spirit. Secondly, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit brings us so much closer to Christ that **it is difficult not to want to stop sinning and to have the fruits in our lives. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you want to be witnessing for Jesus instead of sinning for the devil.**

#### **STUDY 1 Corinthians 15:58.**

Countless Christians have seen exciting things happen in their lives as a result of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Throughout the world, even social and economic changes are taking place because of this experience in the lives of believers.

But the greatest result of all has been the spiritual renewal which has touched virtually every denomination and millions of people both within and without the church. Heaven only knows how many people have been won to Christ because Spirit-filled Christians suddenly found within their previously stagnant selves a burning desire to tell their neighbours that there is hope in Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul says, “So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that **nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless**”.

The Spirit-filled life is the most thrilling adventure a person can ever have. The temporal blessings are many and varied and always rich and exciting. But the most wonderful blessing of all is the knowledge that through **eternal blessings - the salvation of peoples from every land - are piling up.**

If you have not been baptized in the Holy Spirit, we suggest that you read the addendum below, HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT. We believe it will be of great help to you.

## Addendum

### HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

God is ready and willing to fill us with His Spirit. Admittedly there are occasions when people need to confess their sins and totally repent of them **before** Jesus will baptise them in the Holy Spirit. But even in that situation God is eager for them to be filled with His Spirit.

**There is no reason why you cannot be baptised in the Holy Spirit.** And it may happen at any time. Most receive the Baptism during a church service or gathering of believers as hands are laid upon them, just as the new converts received when Peter, John and Paul laid hands on the them in the Book of Acts. But you can be filled with the Spirit when you are alone with Jesus! One lady was filled with the Spirit when washing dishes, and others have received when driving a car or home alone talking with the Lord.

Study carefully the following steps to receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. This blessed experience is for you!

(1) **Thank God for the salvation He has given you through Jesus Christ.** Renew your commitment to Him. Ask the Lord to bring to your mind anything that might keep you from receiving the fullness of the Spirit. **Bitterness toward God or another person, or a previous or present dabbling in the occult, even the reading of horoscope, can keep you from receiving the Baptism.** Repent of these things or any other thing the Lord brings to mind, that you might be a clean vessel for the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

(2) **Ask God to baptise you in the Holy Spirit.** Some people believe this is an experience you do not ask God for. But Jesus said, “how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:13). And when you ask, **believe** that you will receive the Baptism. Here’s where you can put into practice all that you learned about faith and prayer in the last two lessons.

(3) **Believe that you are being filled with the Holy Spirit.** Here’s where many people get bogged down in receiving the Baptism. They expect God to come crashing into their lives with some overpowering, miraculous phenomenon.

(4) **How to know that you’ve been filled.** There has long been a controversy among Spirit-filled people even Bible scholars, over the **sign** that one has been baptised in the Holy Spirit. However, one thing is sure: just as one’s salvation is demonstrated by evidence (see Jesus’ comments in Matthew 7:15-17, and also James 2:14-18), so does the experience of being filled with the Spirit demand **evidence**.

**In the Book of Acts speaking in tongues was the evidence that one had been filled with the Holy Spirit** (see Acts 2:4, 10:44-48, and 19:6). There is no doctrinal statement in the New Testament to the effect that one must speak in tongues to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Many great saints from the past have seen hundreds of thousands saved, but did not mention speaking in tongues.

How does one speak in tongues? Is it God speaking, or is it the person speaking? The answer may surprise you: **It is both. The Holy Spirit gives you the words, but you must do the speaking.**

So ask God for the sign that you've been filled. Expect the Holy Spirit to give you words to speak. **And then speak them as He gives them to you.** You will find in that experience a tremendous spiritual uplift, even though you will not understand what you are saying. You can speak in tongues. **Even deaf-mutes have been known to speak in tongues when God filled them with the Holy Spirit!**

### **Concluding Thoughts**

We would encourage you to ask God to fill you with His Spirit right now. However, we recognise the possibility that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit may be an entirely new concept to you. Therefore, if you are still puzzled and have many doubts about the experience, find and read a book on the subject.

Also, if you have prayed and have still not received, don't be discouraged. Many do not receive the Holy Spirit the first time they pray. We would encourage you to seek the in-filling either where you attend church, at a gathering of Spirit-filled friends, or at a meeting of the Full Gospel Business Men. You will find many Christians who will be glad to pray with you.

## SELF-STUDY #2

1. Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a unique person. T ( ) F ( )
2. List 5 attributes of the Holy Spirit.
  - (a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (c) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (e) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the main function of the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_
4. We cannot be effective witnesses without the help of the Holy Spirit. T ( ) F ( )
5. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is the way in which the Holy Spirit enters a Christian. T ( ) F ( )
6. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit always occurs at the moment of salvation.  
T ( ) F ( )
7. Which of the following definitions best describes the term “Baptism in the Holy Spirit”?
  - (a) A full immersion in the Spirit.
  - (b) A spiritual baptism by the Holy Spirit.
  - (c) A transformation from darkness to light.
  - (d) A baptism into one body of believers.
8. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is only for Christians who are very spiritual.  
T ( ) F ( )
9. The nine spiritual gifts are given to increase our natural abilities. T ( ) F ( )
10. The spiritual gifts are distributed according to the will of the Holy Spirit. T ( ) F ( )
11. The gifts of revelation all refer to things the Holy Spirit reveals to our minds.  
T ( ) F ( )
12. Discerning of spirits is given to determine which demons have possessed Christians. T ( ) F ( )
13. What exactly is the gift of prophecy?
  - (a) A form of extrasensory perception.
  - (b) Inspired preaching.
  - (c) Crystal ball gazing.
  - (d) Comfort and encouragement from the Lord.

14. Define the gift of tongues \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. What is the main function of the gift of tongues? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. Being filled with the Holy Spirit means having more of Jesus. T ( ) F ( )
17. The purpose of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is to give us the gift of love.  
T ( ) F ( )
18. If we stay close to Christ, we will automatically, have all the gifts in our lives.  
T ( ) F ( )
19. A Spirit filled life should cause us to want to share Christ with others. T ( ) F ( )

## ANSWERS TO SELF-STUDY #1

- (a) Christ.
- (b) Demons were cast out, and many who were paralysed or crippled were healed.
- (c) Joy.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) Water baptism.
- (f) They wanted the new believers to receive the Holy Spirit.

**(NOTE:** In the Book of Acts the words “received” and “filled,” when referring to the experience in the Holy Spirit, are synonymous with “baptised”).

- (g) No.
- (h) Peter and John laid their hands on them and prayed for them.

## ANSWERS TO SELF STUDY #2

- 1. T
- 2. (a) Mind  
(b) Feeling  
(c) Will  
(d) Divine  
(e) Eternal
- 3. To glorify Christ. OR to draw men and women to God.
- 4. T
- 5. F
- 6. F
- 7. A
- 8. F
- 9. F
- 10. T
- 11. T
- 12. F
- 13. D
- 14. The ability to speak in a language you have never learned.
- 15. Personal and spiritual strengthening.
- 16. T
- 17. F
- 18. F
- 19. T