

Special gifts may also be bestowed upon you for use in serving the Lord. Paul lists nine gifts of the Spirit: "To one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues" (1 Corinthians 12:8-10).

QUESTIONS

**Have you received the baptism in the Holy Spirit?
Have you spoken in other tongues while in prayer?**

**You may receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit by
praying fervently to God, just as the early Christians
did in Bible times.**

Scriptures are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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NOW THAT I'M A CHRISTIAN

I Should

Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Now that I'm a Christian, I should be filled with the Holy Spirit. I need this personal experience to give me a deeper relationship with my Lord, power for Christian service, strength to live as Jesus Christ commanded.

Now that you have accepted Christ as your Savior, you need to be filled with the Holy Spirit. This is a personal experience, separate from salvation, called the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Jesus did not allow His disciples to begin their public ministry, after His resurrection, until they had received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. He “commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father.” He explained, “Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence” (Acts 1:4,5).

Concerning the purpose of the baptism in the Holy Spirit, Jesus said, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

You can read the way in which Jesus’ disciples and more than 100 other Christian believers were baptized with the Holy Spirit in Acts, chapter 2. And in the same chapter you will discover that all Christians have a right to ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit. The apostle Peter said, “Ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call” (Acts 2:38,39).

All who have accepted Christ as their Savior and Lord are entitled to and should earnestly seek the “promise of the Father”—the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Jesus asked, “If ye . . . 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 11:13).

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RECEIVE?

When a Christian believer earnestly prays for the baptism in the Holy Spirit, he wants to know he has received the same experience described in the Book of Acts. God gives the same evidence now as He did then—speaking in tongues as the Holy Spirit gives utterance. That is, you will be miraculously enabled to utter words in a language you have never learned.

The Bible says, “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:4).

HOW WILL YOUR LIFE BE CHANGED?

The baptism in the Holy Spirit affords an entry into the Spirit-filled life. With it comes power from God for life and service. As a result, you will experience a deepened reverence for God and an overflowing fullness of His Spirit.

By continuing to live the Spirit-filled life, you will have an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work. And you will have a more active love for Christ, and for His Word, and for people who need to find salvation.

The “fruit” the Spirit will produce in your life includes: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (see Galatians 5:22,23).