

# Overflow: Baptism in the Holy Spirit pt. 2

Selected Passages

Bethany Assembly of God

9.8.2024

**Central Proposition: You can experience the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.**

## **Introduction**

Two weeks ago, we spoke about baptism in the Holy Spirit. The goal of that message was to give you confidence that this doctrine is found in the Bible and to help you understand the basics of what the doctrine is and why we should believe it. We considered that baptism in the Holy Spirit is different from salvation and that it is accompanied by the initial, physical evidence of speaking in tongues. We're going to continue covering Baptism in the Holy Spirit today, but with an emphasis on *experience*. As we saw two weeks ago, baptism in the Holy Spirit is about God's empowering presence in our lives. How do you prepare for that experience; what leads up to it? That's what I want to talk to you about today.

**1. We should learn to wait on the Lord.** See Luke 24:49; Isaiah 40:30-31.

While it's not always the case, it's pretty common for people who become Christians and then hear about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit to have to wait on that promise to be fulfilled in their lives. Waiting says that I believe God has to do something first. Waiting on the Lord increases our awareness of our need for Him and also our desire for Him. Waiting in expectant prayer shapes our desires so we can start salivating for the things of God. When we wait, we have the opportunity to see what God wants in the world and to see how far we are from being able to accomplish it. In other words, waiting increases our awareness of our dependence on God.

**2. We should adopt the missional mindset of Jesus.** See Acts 1:6-8.

This one's about motive and desire. The Father has promised a gift to us, the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and this gift has a very particular purpose. If you're seeking the baptism in the Holy Spirit only because someone else told you that you should or because you think it will make you look super spiritual or will be like a badge of honor or even if you're seeking it simply as some kind of spiritual experience but not because you desire to advance God's Kingdom by witnessing to the good news about Jesus, then the gift won't be given because that's not what the gift is for. The recipients of the gift are broad – it is available to all believers – but the purpose of the gift is specific – you will be my witnesses.

**3. We should act in faith.** See Luke 12:11-12; Acts 4:29-31.

This preparation is not that complicated to understand and is really just an application of the last preparation. We can't just have a missional mindset; we must actually be about the business of God's Kingdom. If the baptism in the Holy Spirit is to be more than an experience in a church service, then we have to put ourselves in places where we need His help to accomplish His business. Perhaps you could ask yourself, "What am I doing in my life right now that requires me to trust Jesus? How am I following Him in obedience and trusting that He will provide what I need?" We can ask as a church as well, "How are we relying on the Spirit of God in faith right now?" What are we doing that requires us to trust Him to provide what we lack in ourselves?"

## **Conclusion**

We can experience the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit. The first preparation is learning to wait on the Lord. Then you adopt a missional mindset and act in faith.