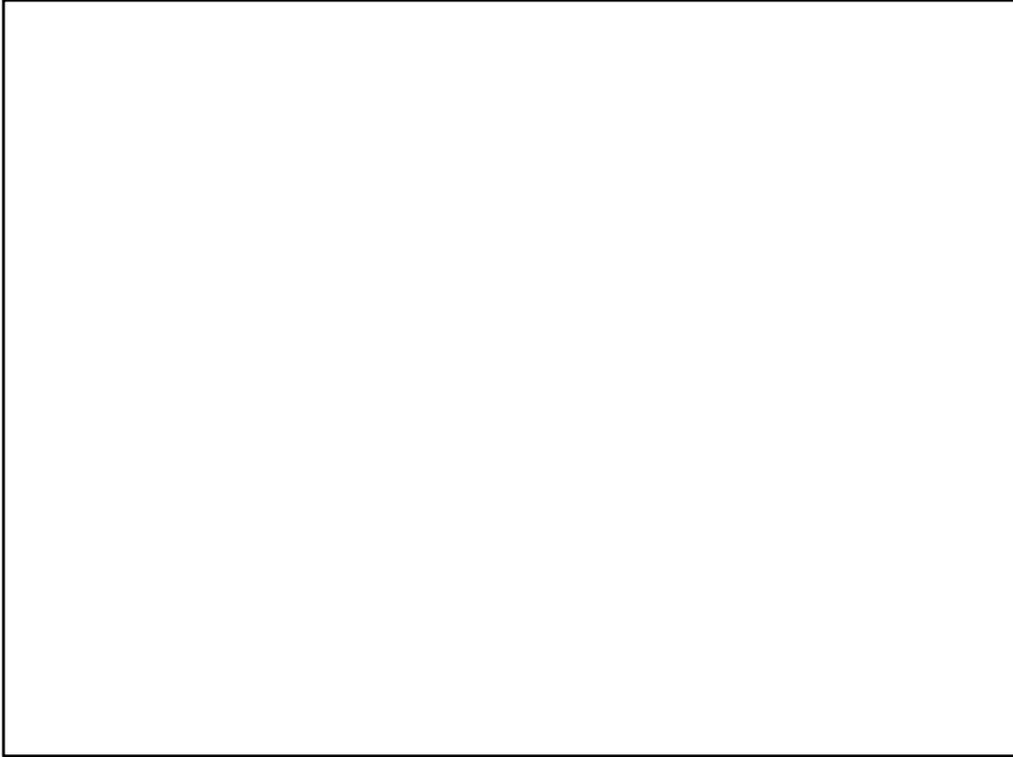


CCF 25 June 2023

Bible references NKJV unless stated

Thanks to Ron for his talk on Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
Not recorded but he has great notes available for further study if you'd like that.



When was the last time you fell in love?

For me it was last weekend when I held our new grandson Caleb and he looked at my face and laughed! Understandable...

**Our Father falls in love with us
every morning!**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness.

Lam 3:22-23 RSV

God falls in love with us again every morning!
Even before we do our hair & makeup....

Our Father gives us good gifts!

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" *Luke 11:13*

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift from our Father who is totally besotted with us – “Good morning my child – I love you so much – here’s a special gift for you today!”

Eph 5:18 Ron’s Amplified Version “All of us, MUST, allow ourselves to be continually filled with the Spirit.”

Baptism of the Spirit is essential

Then Jesus returned in the power of
the Spirit to Galilee *Luke 4:14*

“Behold, I send the Promise of My
Father upon you; but tarry in the
city of Jerusalem until you are
endued with power from on high.”

Luke 24:49

Our Father is besotted with us and loves to bless us – the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a precious gift to us and is essential for us to operate in God’s power.

Jesus was filled with the Spirit at His baptism and after being tested in the wilderness returned in the power of the Spirit.

The disciples were told to wait until they received power before they started.

We are no different.

If we try to live the Christian life without the power of the Spirit we will fail, burn out and become damaged.

The church of God will become a man-made organisation.

Heb 13:20-21 Now may the God of peace ... equip you with every good thing to carry out His will and strengthen you [making you complete and perfect as you ought to be], accomplishing in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

God equips those He calls. If we refuse His equipping, we can’t fulfil His calling.

Without the power of the Spirit we have insufficient power against the enemy. The fight is not carnal but spiritual. 2 Co 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

The Power of the Spirit – Gifts!

- Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation,
Giving, Leadership, Mercy *Ro 12-6-8*
- Word of wisdom, Word of knowledge, Faith,
Gifts of healings, Miracles, Prophecy,
Distinguishing between spirits, Tongues,
Interpretation of tongues, Apostle, Prophet,
Teacher, Miracles, Kinds of healings, Helps,
Administration *1 Co 12:8-10, 28*
- Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, Teacher
Eph 4:11
- Speaking, Rendering service *1 Pe 4:11*

One way that the power of the Spirit is released is through His gifts. We receive these following the baptism of the Spirit.

What an array of wonderful gifts our loving Father has for us!

All these require speech, so today let's look at one of the foundational gifts and the first one to be demonstrated on the Day of Pentecost...

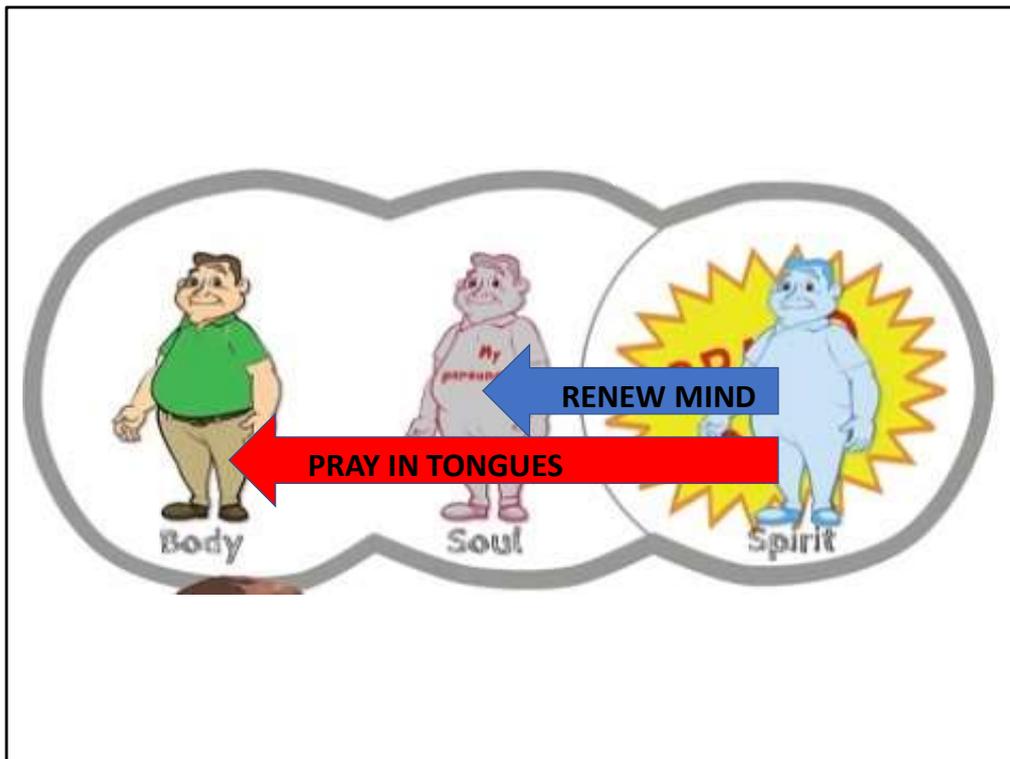
The gift of tongues

- Prophesied in Old Testament *Is28:11*
- A result of being filled with the Holy Spirit
Ac 2:4, 19:6
- A sign that we are believers
Mk 16:17, Ac 10:45-46
- A sign to non-believers
Ac 2:10-12, 1 Co 14:21-24
- Temporary (for our earthly life only)
1 Co 13:8-10

Praying in the Spirit

- Edifies ourselves but not others
Jude 20, Eph 6:10,18
- Bypasses the mind – spirit directly
controls tongue *1 Co 14:14*

When I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit about 50 years ago, I didn't immediately speak in tongues.
It came later during prayer and worship times as a natural outcome of closeness to God.
It's a gift, all we have to do is receive it.



We are called to renew our minds, but God also gives us a direct connection between our spirit and our body.

As we pray in tongues our Spirit speaks directly through our body and these spoken words have spiritual power.

Any sportsmen, tradesmen, artists, musicians, poets, craftsmen, linguists etc. here? What do you need to do to become skilled?

Practice!

Practicing praying in tongues makes a way through from our spirit to our body.

What do we do with our mind when praying in tongues? Listen! Often the Spirit will bring a revelation of someone or something to pray for (in English) or another revelation.

We can also stop the flow of the Spirit to our body with our mind. 1 Co 14:32 The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

This skill is important for the development of ALL the other gifts of the Spirit.

Speaking in tongues

- Must be used in love *1 Co 13:1*
- We speak to God, not men *1Co14:1-3*
- Edifies ourselves but not others
1 Co 14:4,18,19 Jude 20
- Not essential for all believers but to be desired by all believers
1 Co 12:30,31; 14:39
- A gift of the Holy Spirit for the benefit of all *Eph 4:11-12 1 Co 12:7-10, 28*

This refers to speaking in a tongue in a meeting.

For me it followed naturally from praying in tongues.

When speaking in tongues in a meeting, it's important to focus our mind on listening to the Spirit. He will let us know when to stop, and may also give a further revelation or an interpretation.

Interpretation of tongues

- Speaking in tongues to be done in an orderly manner and must be interpreted *1 Co 14:12, 26-28*
- Interpretation of tongues is prophecy and edifies the church *1 Co 14:5,6*

Speaking in tongues in a meeting MUST be interpreted. If there is no one there with the gift of interpretation, don't speak in tongues.

You can interpret your own tongue, but be sure that this is what the Spirit is asking you to do.

Interpretation of tongues is prophecy and is a step towards developing the gift of prophecy.

When interpreting, focus your mind on the Spirit as He will tell you when to stop and prevent you adding your own words.

Interpretation is NOT translation. Example of Jenny & Linda Wong.

Using the power of the Spirit

- Proclaim good news *Mt 10:7, Mk 16:15*
- Baptize believers *Mt 28:19*
- Teach them Jesus' commands *Mt 28:20*
- Disciple the nations *Mt 28:19*
- Cast out demons *Mt 10:1,8*
- Heal the sick *Mt 10:1,8*
- Cleanse the lepers *Mt 10:8*
- Raise the dead *Mt 10:8*

This is what Jesus has called us to do.

Maybe we could do some of it on our own without the power of the Spirit – but that's not our calling.

We have the power of the Spirit through the gifts of the Spirit.

We must allow that power to flow into the physical world.

The gift of tongues is the first step on the way to receiving all the gifts that we need to fulfil our calling.

Because we have authority in Jesus, what we say matters. It brings the spiritual into the physical.

Pr 18:21a (YLT) Death and life [are] in the power of the tongue

Minister baptism of spirit & gift of tongues