

**LAYMAN'S SCHOOL OF TRAINING**  
**COURSE/HOLE 1 - CHRISTIAN GROWTH SEMINAR**

**LECTURE 4 - HOW TO RECEIVE AND YIELD TO THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE**

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## 1. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

*Acts 5:3-4 (NAS) "But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit... vs 4b You have **not lied to men, but to God.**' "*

The Holy Spirit is a **divine person** without a corporate body. He is the **third person** of the Godhead and is as much God as the Father and Jesus Christ the Son are. The Holy Spirit is not just a mere influence or attitude - He is truly God, a divine personality.

To the Christian He is our **Comforter, Helper, Intercessor and Advocate** on earth.

*John 14:16-18 (NAS) "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another Helper**, that He may be **with you forever.***

*17 that is, the **Spirit** of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and **will be in you.***

*18 'I will **not leave you as orphans**; I will come to you (in the person of the Holy Spirit).' "*

*16 (Knox) "...He (the Father) will give you another to **befriend** you..."*

The Holy Spirit has come to take the place of Jesus on the earth and to be our **best and closest friend.**

He is the author of the Bible and therefore the most qualified **teacher.**

*John 14:26 (NAS) "But the **Helper, the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you **all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.**"*

Jesus said it is to our **advantage** (or more profitable - Greek) that He goes away and the Holy Spirit comes in His place.

*John 16:7 (NAS) "But I tell you the truth, **it is to your advantage** that I go away; for if I do not go away, the **Helper** (the Holy Spirit) shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you."*

## 2. HOW IMPORTANT WAS THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE MINISTRY OF JESUS?

When Jesus left Heaven He laid aside all heavenly privileges and powers and became a mere man, totally dependent on the Holy Spirit for power to perform healing and miracles.

*Phil 2:5-7 (NAS) "Have this **attitude** in yourselves which was also in **Christ Jesus,***

*6 who, although **He existed in the form of God** did not regard **equality with God** a thing to be grasped,*

*7 but **emptied** (to neutralize, make of none effect, nothing, of no reputation) **Himself**, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being **made in the likeness of men.**"*

*Matt 3:13-17* Read at home. It was only after **Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit** at His water baptism, that He could begin His public ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 10:38 (NAS) "You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how **God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power**, and how He went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed by the devil; for God was with Him."*

It would not have been necessary for God to anoint Jesus if He had not **emptied Himself** of all heavenly power and became a mere man.

## 3. HOW IS CHRIST'S MINISTRY GOING TO CONTINUE ON THE EARTH TODAY?

Christ's ministry can only continue on the earth today through His people who receive the power and ability from the same Holy Spirit as He did when He was on the earth.

**Luke 24:49** (NAS) *"And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city (Jerusalem) until you are **clothed with POWER from on high.**"*

**Power - Greek:** Dunamis; inherent power capable of reproducing itself from which we get our English word dynamo.

**Acts 1:8** (NAS) *"But you shall receive **POWER** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses..."*

#### 4. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Jesus is God's gift to the sinner.

The **Holy Spirit** is God's gift to His children.

**John 14:17a** *"...the Spirit of truth whom the **WORLD** (the unsaved) **CANNOT RECEIVE**, because it does not behold Him or know Him..."*

A Christian is born of the Spirit and can be led by the Spirit, but God wants us to go on to being **filled** with the Holy Spirit.

**John 4:5-14** Read at home. The salvation experience is depicted by Jesus as a **well of WATER** (which is a **type of the Holy Spirit**) springing up to ETERNAL LIFE.

We now see a subsequent experience to salvation in which the believer's well becomes so full of water that it begins to overflow and turns into **rivers of living water**. Here Jesus is making a direct reference to the Holy Spirit (vs 39).

**John 7:37-39** (NAS) *"Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If any man is **THIRSTY**, let him **come to Me and drink.**"*

**38** *He who **believes** in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being **shall flow rivers of living water.**'*

**39a** *But **this He spoke of the SPIRIT...**"*

**ILLUSTRATION:** An **empty glass**; then with a bit of water; finally overflowing: representing an unsaved person; a born again Christian; a Spirit filled Christian.

There is a obviously a **far larger volume of water** in a river than in a well and so the Bible calls this second experience being **FILLED** with the Holy Spirit.

#### 5. WHAT IS THE SIGN OF THE INITIAL INFILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

**Acts 19:1-2,6** (NAS) *"And it came about that while Apollos was at Corinth, **Paul** having passed through the upper country came to **Ephesus**, and **found some DISCIPLES,***

**2** *And he said to them, '**Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?** And they said to him, 'No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.'*

**6** *And when **Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and **THEY began speaking with tongues** and prophesying."***

These disciples were born of the Spirit, but not yet filled with the Spirit - they'd had their well experience - now their river experience. Why settle for less when God has made available to you more?

Notice **THEY** (not the Holy Spirit) **began speaking with tongues** and prophesying.

**Acts 10:44-46** (NAS) *"While Peter was still speaking these words, the **Holy Spirit fell** upon all those who were **LISTENING to the message.***

**45** *And all the circumcised believers (Jewish Christians) who had come with Peter were amazed, because the **GIFT of the Holy Spirit** had been **poured out** upon the Gentiles also.*

**46** *For they were hearing **THEM speaking with tongues** and exalting God..."*

How did they know these Gentiles were filled with the Holy Spirit? Because they were hearing **THEM** (not the Holy Spirit) **speaking with tongues** and exalting God.

**Acts 2:4 (NAS)** "And **THEY** were **ALL FILLED with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.**"

At the initial outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (50 days after the resurrection of Jesus) they knew they were all filled with the Holy Spirit because **THEY** (not the Holy Spirit) **began to speak in other tongues** as the Spirit gave them the words to utter.

Speaking with **tongues** is the **only common denominator** in all three scriptures. Therefore speaking with tongues is the Biblical **SIGN** of the initial infilling of the Holy Spirit.

## 6. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND SPEAKING IN TONGUES?

Unless you're made aware of the **benefits** of something, you'll have no **desire** to buy (or want).

**ILLUSTRATION: Hansel demonstrating tongues** to me recently after I was saved. I thought it was far out, saw no benefit to it and therefore had no desire for the experience.

There are **many benefits** to being filled with the Holy Spirit and receiving your heavenly prayer language (i.e. speaking in tongues).

**1 Cor 14:2 (NAS)** "For one who speaks in a tongue **does not speak to men, but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.**"

**DEFINITION:** Tongues is direct, supernatural communication with Almighty God on a closed frequency that the devil cannot understand.

Speaking in your home language is speaking from your mind; speaking in **tongues is speaking from your spirit**, by the Holy Spirit within you, the mysteries and divine secrets of God.

**1 Cor 14:4a (NAS)** "One who speaks in a tongue **edifies** (builds or charges) **himself.**"

Speaking in tongues edifies, encourages, builds up and re-charges your spirit man with God's supernatural power and ability.

We speak in tongues and give God **adequate** thanks, praise and **worship**, because we don't have the known words to express what we feel in our hearts.

**Acts 10:46 (NAS)** "For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and **exalting God.**"

46b (KJV) "...for they heard them speak with tongues and **magnify God.**"

46b (Weymouth) "...speaking in tongues and **extolling the majesty of God.**"

46b (Goodspeed) "...speaking in foreign languages and **declaring the greatness of God.**"

46b (Beck) "...speaking in other languages and **praising God.**"

Because of our **limited knowledge** about most situations and **lack of wisdom** on how to correctly pray about them, we need to **depend on the indwelling Holy Spirit** and **trust Him to pray the perfect prayer** according to the will of God (vs 27) through us as we yield ourselves to Him praying in tongues.

**Rom 8:26-27 (NAS)** "And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; (Worrell) **for we know not what to pray for as we ought; (NEB) but through our inarticulate groans the Spirit Himself is pleading for us. 27 and He (the Father) who searches the (our) hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He (the Spirit) intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.**"

Articulate speech means our regular kind of speech.

## 7. HOW DO I KNOW I AM READY TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT? PERHAPS I'M NOT HOLY ENOUGH.

**1 John 1:7b,9 (NAS)** "...the blood of Jesus His Son **cleanses** us from **ALL SIN.**

**9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.**"

You can't be any more forgiven than to be totally forgiven by God.

Now if it were possible for you to live **an overcoming victorious Christian life without the** strengthening ability and power of the **Holy Spirit** - what would you need the Holy Spirit for?

God wants to give us the fullness of the Holy Spirit in our **weakened condition**, so that by His power we can live a victorious Christian life.

## 8. HOW CAN I RECEIVE THE INFILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

**Acts 2:38-39 (NAS)** "...Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for (or because of - Dykes) the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive **the GIFT of the Holy Spirit.**

**39** For **the promise** is for you and your children, and **for ALL who are far off**, and as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself."

We need to understand that the Holy Spirit is God's **free gift** to all His children and there is nothing we can do to work for, earn or deserve Him.

This experience is for every **FAR OFF** generation - that's us.

We need to **ask in faith** for the infilling of the Holy Spirit and **KNOW** that we **will receive**, for God desires us to be filled with the Holy Spirit more than any earthy Father desires to give good gifts to his children.

**Luke 11:9-13 (NAS)** "And I say to you, **ask**, and it shall be given to you; **seek**, and you shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened to you.

**10** for **EVERYONE WHO ASKS, RECEIVES**; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it shall be opened.

**11** Now suppose one of your fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he?

**12** Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he?

**13** If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ASK Him?"**

**Acts 2:4 (NAS)** "And they were **ALL FILLED** with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as **the Spirit was giving them utterance.**"

**4c (TCNT)** "...as the Spirit **PROMPTED** **their** utterances."

**4c (Rotherham)** "...as the Spirit was giving unto **them** to be **SOUNDING** forth."

The Holy Spirit will give you **new words or strange SOUNDS to utter**, but you will have to **YIELD your tongue and vocal organs** to Him, and in **total CO-OPERATION** begin to speak them out.

Don't let your mind get in the way by analyzing the words.

**1 Thess 5:19 (NAS)** "Do not **quench** the Spirit."

**19 (Knox)** "Do not **stifle** the utterances of the Spirit."

**ILLUSTRATION:** I did not speak in tongues at the Holy Spirit camp, even though mightily touched by the power of God. However, a few weeks later when **Lyn Fray** helped me by showing me from the Word that I was waiting for the Holy Spirit to speak in tongues, when in fact I was the one who simply had to yield my tongue to Him in simple faith.

Jesus said being filled with the Holy Spirit is as simple as **drinking a glass of spiritual water.**

**John 7:37-39a (NAS)** "Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If any man is **thirsty**, let him come to **Me and drink.**

**38** He who **believes** in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his **innermost being** (or **belly** - KJV) **shall flow rivers of living water.**'

**39a** **But this He spoke of the Spirit..."**

The Greek word PNEUMA translated as SPIRIT is also frequently rendered as WIND or **BREATH.**

When **God created man** He **breathed** into man the **breath** (or spirit) of life and man became a living soul.

When a man dies he **breathes** his last or expires, and his spirit leaves his body.

**Matt 18:20 (NAS)** "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, **there I am in their midst.**"

God is here in our midst, or in the atmosphere in the person of the **Holy Spirit, here present to fill every hungry heart.**

Here are a few **seemingly obvious** but **important practical points** to help you drink this glass of spiritual water after you have prayed the prayer of faith to be filled with the Holy Spirit...

- i) Raise your hands to the Lord, tilt your head back, open your mouth and **breath in deeply** as an act of faith to drink in of the Holy Spirit, who is here in our midst.
- ii) As you **breathe** out, TRUST the Holy Spirit who is inside of you and begin speaking out whatever SOUNDS seem easy to make, and you will find yourself speaking in a heavenly language.
- iii) Don't stop speaking until there is a clear free flow of words.

The supernatural part is not who's doing the talking but what is being said.

**ILLUSTRATION:** I've heard testimonies of people who were prayed for to receive the Holy Spirit and did not speak in tongues immediately. However as they kept believing one **woke up speaking in tongues** during the night; another started speaking in tongues while **washing her dishes** the next day.

## 9. ONCE I HAVE BEEN FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, HOW DO I SAY FULL?

*Eph 5:18-19 (Phillips) "Don't get your stimulus from wine (for there is always the danger of excessive drinking); (Williams) but **ever (or continuously) be filled with the Spirit;** 19 (KJV) **speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.**"*

You will **stay full** the same way you **were initially filled** - by giving time to praying and worshipping God in other tongues.

*Acts 4:31a (NAS) "And when **they had prayed**, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were **all filled with the Holy Spirit.**"*

The same disciples who were filled in **Acts 2** were re-filled in a prayer meeting in **Acts 4**.

## 10. WHEN AND WHERE SHOULD I PRAY IN TONGUES?

*1 Cor 14:18 (NAS) "I thank God, I speak in tongues **more than you all.**"*

The Corinthians were known for their much praying in tongues, but the Apostle Paul claimed to pray in tongues more than them all.

*1 Cor 14:14-15 (NAS) "For if I pray in a tongue, **my spirit prays**, but my mind is unfruitful.*

*15 What is the outcome then? **I shall pray with the spirit and I shall pray with the mind also; I shall sing with the spirit and I shall sing with the mind also.**"*

We should pray in tongues and in our home language, in our **prayer closet** every day.

We can also pray in tongues **in our car** or at any available opportunity when you won't disturb other people.

We should attend at least **one good prayer meeting** a week where our praying can be stimulated by the enthusiastic praying of other mature Christians.

We should also worship God in tongues **in the worship service** at the appropriate time, but never interrupt the speaker in a service by praying out aloud in tongues.

## 11. HAVE A TIME OF WORSHIP. WAIT ON THE ANOINTING. MINISTER THE INFILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BY THE LAYING ON OF HANDS TO THOSE WHO DESIRE TO RECEIVE.

### HOMework FOR LECTURE 4

1. Spend 10 minutes a day meditating on your notes until these truths register on your spirit man and as preparation for a simple true or false test next week.
2. Memorize **Rom 8:26** which will count for 10% towards your test result. This is a most important

scripture for all Christians to learn.

3. Start praying in tongues at least 5 minutes a day and let it rapidly grow to where you will be able to spend at least half an hour to an hour a day praying in tongues.
4. Join a good **Prayer Group** at the end of this course, so that the prayer life of other Christians can be a catalyst to inspire your prayer life to greater heights.
5. Know that God has filled you with the Holy Spirit to make you an effective witness for Christ (**Acts 1:8** - see last scripture in point 3).

Plan now to join the next **Hole 2 - Advanced Bible Study Seminar**, followed by **Hole 3 - Fishers of Men** training program to learn how to **successfully lead souls to Christ**.