

Session One: Activating the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a real, active member of the Godhead. He is a comforter, a helper, and the dearest friend you could have. In this teaching series, we will learn more about the precious Holy Spirit and how to activate His ministry in our lives. Understanding who the Holy Spirit is and what He wants to do in you will bring an acceleration of supernatural activity in your life. As He reveals Himself to us, we can expect miracles and breakthrough in our lives.

Acts 2:1-2 *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.*

The Holy Spirit loves to do “suddenlies!” We are in a day and age when the Holy Spirit is beginning to do more “sudden things” than have ever been seen before in the history of mankind. The culmination of these sudden works of the Spirit is a coming revival.

You are in for the time of your life! You will begin to experience the greatest moments with the Holy Spirit you’ve ever had and witness greater miracles than you’ve ever seen.

Acts of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:3-8 *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?*

A great move of God began with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the Upper Room as recorded in **Acts 2**. Before His crucifixion, Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be given to His followers: “*And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; He is the Spirit of truth*” (**John 14:16-17a**). When that power came, it changed the world forever.

Samuel was anointed as a prophet as a young boy. The gift of prophecy is sometimes called the “seer anointing” because a person has been anointed by the Holy Spirit to see into the spirit realm and observe what God is doing.

1 Samuel 3:19-20 *And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD.*

After Jesus' resurrection, He was seen by more than 500 people (**1 Corinthians 15:6**). How many were waiting together in the Upper Room when the Holy Spirit was poured out? 120 (**Acts 1:15**).

There is something significant about waiting on the Holy Spirit. Jesus also waited for the Holy Spirit to come on Him before He began His public ministry.

Matthew 3:16 *And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him.*

There is nothing on this planet more powerful than the power of the Holy Spirit! When He comes in you, He gives you:

- power to endure
- power to breakthrough
- of direction
- sustaining power

Genesis 1:2 *And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*

From the beginning, the Holy Spirit has been moving across the face of the earth. He has been active since the beginning and is still moving now. He moved on Jesus during His earthly ministry.

*The same power that raised Jesus from the dead
is about to resurrect some things in your life.*

Matthew 3:17 *And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

The gentle anointing that came on Jesus in the form of a dove turned into great power. Jesus' baptism in the Holy Spirit gave Him the power to resist the temptation of Satan in the wilderness (**Matthew 4:1-11**).

Do you feel like you are in a wilderness? Wait on the Holy Spirit and use the Word of God to sustain you. Be encouraged by this prophetic declaration: “People who have been let down are about to be lifted up.” The Holy Spirit is a strengthener. He will make you stronger – mentally, physically, spiritually – than you have ever been before.

When you receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, great power, great gifts and great ability come into your life.

Even in His physical weakness, Jesus released the Word in the power of the Holy Spirit and defeated the attempts of the enemy.

Matthew 4:11 *Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.*

Zechariah 4:6 *Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.*

Listen wholeheartedly to the prophetic encouragement the Lord is speaking through Dr. Ellis. What is he saying that connects with your spirit?

Psalms 118:7 *I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.*

Joel 3:10b *Let the weak say, I am strong.*

The Holy Spirit is the one who performs these great miracles! You have the greatest power in the world inside of you. It's time to let Him out!

The Holy Spirit is the one who “*reveals His secrets to His servants*” (**Amos 3:7**).

We have to allow the Holy Spirit to be released to minister through us! He is a great faith-releaser.

Keys to activating the Holy Spirit

Key #1: Repent

1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Start your day off with repentance.

Key #2: Holy Spirit, fill me fresh today

John 7:38 *He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.*

Next, express your desire for the Holy Spirit and sit before the Lord, allowing Him to fill you completely. Press in and wait; don't leave His presence until you have heard from God.

1 Corinthians 6:19 *What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*

Key #3 Be excited about the Holy Spirit

You need to realize that you have the Holy Spirit inside of you and He has the power to do anything you need.

Deuteronomy 31:6 *Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*

Jesus waited 30 years before His time came. The disciples waited together in the upper room for their time to come. This could be *your* time! What are you asking God for at this time in your life?

Just like any relationship, the more you get to know the Holy Spirit, the more you will begin to understand Him. He has emotions; He understands our weaknesses; He is empathetic to our sufferings. He is your heavenly helper and He wants to be activated in your life.

The first time we find the Holy Spirit in the Scripture is in the very beginning.

From the very beginning, the Holy Spirit has been active. He is still active today and wants to be fully active in your life.

Isaiah 60:1 *Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.*

Personal Application

The Holy Spirit's activity in your life brings all of His gifts: His wisdom, His knowledge, His truth. Satan is the father of lies. But anything the Holy Spirit speaks to you is complete truth. Miracles are worked among us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Follow His leading and the Holy Spirit will be activated in your life.

This week, take more time than you may normally spend to sit before the Lord. Express your deep longing for Him. Let Him know how much you love Him and ask for Him for a fresh infilling

of the Holy Spirit. Take the time to sit and wait for the Holy Spirit to respond. Don't rush. The Holy Spirit may speak to you by illuminating a passage of Scripture, by speaking to you in your thoughts, by giving you a fresh awareness of His love for you, or in any number of ways

PRAYER

Father, in the name of Jesus I come to thank You for the mighty Holy Spirit who is active right now. The same Holy Spirit who baptized the disciples in the upper room is available to me. Thank You for the reality of what that means for me. Open my understanding so that I can truly grasp how much You want to release the Holy Spirit into my life. I believe that You have something wonderful in store for me as I embark on this journey of partnering with the wonderful Holy Spirit. Thank You for the gift of friendship with the Holy Spirit. Take me to new levels in Him .

In Jesus' name, Amen.