

Much More!

“The Power and Gifts of the Holy Spirit”

Introduction – Dismiss BZ & Welcome LIVE

Open Discussion:

Great week at the BASH. Kicking off disciple-making groups for this next season of ministry. Defining a win in our church: “Becoming like Jesus and helping others become like Jesus.” Jesus said if we would be His Church, we would win. We want to be a church that wins, we want to be His Church. Jeremy’s story last week – wow, powerful. That was the work of God. I want to see God work that way more.

Brandon

Why have we called this sermon series, “Much More, The Power and Gifts of the Holy Spirit?”

Jerry

Based on what Jesus promised, the church of Jesus can experience much more of His power than what we are currently experiencing. Based on what Jesus promised, testimonies of dramatic life change should be the norm in every local church.

Where in scripture did Jesus promise the church His power?

Brandon

Acts 1:4-8

4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the

Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me;

5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Before His ascension, Jesus promised His disciples the power of the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses.

What happened when the first disciples received the power of the Holy Spirit?

Jerry

For ten days they waited for the promise to be fulfilled. I wonder what those ten days were like for those disciples?

- **We know they devoted themselves to fellowship.**
- **We know they devoted themselves to prayer.**
- **We know they devoted themselves to the Word.**

But if you were one of those disciples, you had to be wondering what difference the power of the Holy Spirit was going to make in you? Jesus said they would be His witnesses. They had to be wondering what that would look like.

- **They knew what the Holy Spirit had done when He came upon Moses.**

- **They knew what the Holy Spirit had done when He came upon Joseph.**
- **They knew what the Holy Spirit had done when He came upon Samson.**
- **They knew what the Holy Spirit had done when He came upon David.**
- **They knew what the Holy Spirit had done when He came upon Elijah and Elisha.**
- **They knew what the Holy Spirit had done when He came upon Jesus.**

Jesus said they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon Him. The word power is the word “dynamis.” For the apostles, that meant they were going to receive supernatural miraculous ability. We can only imagine their anticipation.

We can only imagine their conversations about what this superpower would be like for each one of them.

Brandon

When they the day of Pentecost arrived, the Holy Spirit came upon every one of the 120 disciples of Jesus.

Acts 2:1-4

1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. NKJV

When they received the power of the Holy Spirit, they received the superpower to speak in a foreign language!

These superpowers are called gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Is it okay to use that word? “Superpowers?”

Jerry

Absolutely! We are talking about supernatural powers that are the giftings of the Holy Spirit.

Brandon

Speaking in a foreign tongue is just one of several supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit identified in scripture. Wow. What happened to those disciples when they received the Holy Spirit was incredible.

Jerry

I wonder, after it was over, if the disciples were surprised when they received this superpower of the Holy Spirit? I wonder if they were amazed that they were given the superpower to speak in a foreign language?

I think they had to be blown away. Some Jews believe there were as many as 70 different languages spoken because the number 70 represents all the nations of the world!

The other thing that happened was that Peter suddenly turned into John the Baptist! (explain)

Brandon

It would be easy to wonder if some of the other disciples were jealous that Peter was given a superpower to preach the gospel like he did. Were they?

I don't think so. When it was over, they were all in a state of awe. As a result of this miraculous sign and Peter's sermon, 3000 Jews became disciples of Jesus.

Acts 2:41

41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

NKJV

Body

Jerry

Is this what all believers should expect to experience if we receive the power of the Holy Spirit?

The answer is no. There is no indication in scripture that any of these 120 disciples ever received this particular superpower again.

Peter saw a group of Gentiles receive this divine ability (Acts 10:46). The apostle Paul saw others receive this supernatural ability (Acts 19:6). Paul experienced this

supernatural ability many times (1 Corinthians 14:18). He wished that all the believers in the church at Corinth spoke in tongues (1 Corinthians 14:5). But he made it clear that they would not.

1 Corinthians 12:27-31

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles?

30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

NKJV

Brandon

What should we expect if we receive the power of the Holy Spirit?

The power of the Holy Spirit is for every believer. But Paul made it clear that the distribution of these superpowers is determined by God's sovereign will.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

**9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,
10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.
11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.
NKJV**

We know from the apostle Paul that when believers receive the power of the Holy Spirit, He distributes to every believer at least one or more supernatural abilities.

What is the purpose of these superpowers?

1 Corinthians 12:7

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.

NKJV

We know that the purpose of this distribution of these superpowers, supernatural giftings of the Holy Spirit, is to profit others.

We know that the profit of this distribution is the edification of others. (1 Corinthians 14:26; 2 Corinthians 12:19; Romans 15:2)

1 Corinthians 14:26

26 How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

NKJV

The word “edify” is an architectural word that means “to build up.”

What is being built up in us through the manifestation of these superpowers? What is God’s purpose in giving us these supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit? The purpose of these gifts, and the purpose of the edification that results through these gifts, is to increase faith and love in Jesus’ church (1 Thessalonians 3:2; Jude 20, 1 Corinthians 13).

God’s purpose for these supernatural powers from the Holy Spirit is to build us up in faith and to build us up in love!

To grow up spiritually means to grow in faith and love. That means, ultimately, the purpose of these spiritual giftings of the Holy Spirit is to make us more like Jesus and to help other become more like Jesus. When that happens in our church, **we will win. The gifts of the Holy Spirit help us be His Church. They help us get out of the seats and into the game. They help empower us to be a church that wins!**

Jerry

Isn’t that exciting!!!

The Holy Spirit of God wants to give every believer in the church superpowers that will build up the faith of the other members so that we will be a church that wins!!!

Conclusion

How is this working in most local churches?

It appears to me that there are a lot of members of the church that are not using their superpowers.

What is the problem?

1 Corinthians 12:1

**12 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:
NKJV**

Apparently, there are a lot of members of the church that are ignorant concerning spiritual gifts.

The church is like this incredible team of people with superpowers, but it does know what it has or how to use what it has!

So, this is the purpose of this series of messages. We want to help you discover your superpowers and we want to help you learn how to use them to build up the faith of others.

Brandon

This is going to be an exciting journey. We have a lot of great stories to share that will help your faith. We also will give you a lot of important information that will help you learn what superpowers the Holy Spirit has made available to you.

Before we begin this journey, there are three questions that you must settle in your heart.

1. Do you believe that you are the temple of the Holy Spirit?

2. Do you believe that the Holy Spirit is still giving His superpowers to believers?

3. Are you willing to receive any superpower that the Holy Spirit wants to give you?

Is the Holy Spirit welcome in you? To do whatever He wills?

Jerry

Invitation

- **Receive the Holy Spirit by receiving Jesus as your Lord and Savior.**
- **Accept the scripture as the final authority for your faith and practice.**
- **Surrender to the Holy Spirit's will for your life.**