



**Series Title—Spiritual Growth**  
**Part Five—Be Baptized in the Holy Spirit**

**Romans 12:4-5 NLT**

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*Objective Sentence: Everyone can grow spiritually by making nine commitments outlined in God's Word for every devoted follower of Jesus v [ 1. Where it all begins 2. Give Your Full Attention 3. Make a Calendar Clock Commitment 4. Love the Church 5. Be Baptized in the Holy Spirit].*

**Introduction; Pastor Dan:** It is important that we emulate the *practices and patterns* that the Lord Jesus established in the New Testament church. Christ's disciples had three significant encounters with the Holy Spirit: (1). **John 20:19-22** On the evening of the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and stood in the midst of them and said, "Peace *be* with you." <sup>20</sup> When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." <sup>22</sup> And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." *This is the moment when they were born again and the Holy Spirit took up residence in them. (John 3:3; Matthew 18:3)* (2). **Acts 2:1-4** **Pastor Dan:** On the Day of Pentecost the disciples, along with 102 other believers, were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. *They were empowered for service (Acts 1:8) through this encounter with God.* (3). **Acts 4:28-31** The disciples were filled again with the Holy Spirit and spoke the Word of God with boldness, the Lord confirming their words with signs and wonders following. This same group of people—the disciples of Jesus—were filled with the Holy Spirit again. *This encounter teaches us that there is a need for us to continually be filled with the Holy Spirit.*

***In order to grow spiritually you must ...***

**#1. Be Baptized in the Holy Spirit** (**Pastor Dan:** **Joel 2:30-31 and Matthew 24:29-31** is referring to the Great Tribulation at the end of the ages and proves that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with all the accompanying gifts did not pass away with the death of the disciples or with the canonization of the Scriptures. [**The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord**].

**Joel 2:28-31** “And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. <sup>29</sup> And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. <sup>30</sup> “And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. <sup>31</sup> The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord <sup>32</sup> And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved....

**Acts 2:1-4** Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. <sup>15</sup> For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is *only* the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup> But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel; It shall come to pass in the last days says the Lord.

*If that is true that we should follow the practices and patterns established by Jesus in the early church and that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are relevant for today than you should ...*

1. **Receive the Holy Spirit** (**Luke 3:15-16 NLT** *Everyone was expecting the Messiah to come soon, and they were eager to know whether John might be the Messiah. NKJV* <sup>16</sup> *John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you [only]with water; but One mightier than I is coming [more powerful, more noble], whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire [more powerful, more noble].* <sup>17</sup> *His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.*
  - a. **A. W. Tozer:** Before we can be filled with the Spirit, the desire to be filled must be all-consuming. It must be for the time the biggest thing in the life, so acute, so intrusive as to crowd out everything else. The degree of fullness in any life accords perfectly with the intensity of true desire. We have as much of God as we actually want.
  - b. **John 7:37-38 NKJV** On the last day, that great *day* of the feast [Tabernacles] Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup> He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” <sup>39</sup> But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.
  - c. **Spirit Filled Life Bible:** Each day during the Feast of Tabernacles a joyous celebration was observed in which the priests brought water to the temple from the pool of Siloam in a golden pitcher (symbolic of the water supplied from the rock in **Exodus 17**). During the procession the people recited **Isaiah 12:3** Therefore with joy you shall draw water from the wells of salvation. The water was poured out on the altar as an offering to God, while the people shouted and sang. Jesus was the fulfillment of all that the ceremony typified.
  - d. **Acts 1:4-6, 12-14 NKJV** Jesus being assembled together with [the disciples] ... commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which ... you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John truly baptized with water,

but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. <sup>12</sup> Then they [Peter and the disciples] ... returned to Jerusalem .... <sup>13</sup> And ... when they had entered ... the upper room .... <sup>14</sup> These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

- e. **Ephesians 5:18-20 NLT** Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>19</sup> singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ *Spirit Filled Life Bible*: The tense of the Greek for be filled makes it clear that such a Spirit-filled condition does not stop with a single experience, but is maintained by "continually being filled," as commanded here. Pastor Dan: Ephesians 5:18 expresses the idea that you and I must be filled and continually filled so that you are always full.
- f. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV** Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body<sup>[c]</sup> and in your spirit, which are God's

2. **Be Empowered by the Holy Spirit** (*Acts 1:8 NKJV 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.*)

- a. *E. Stanley Jones*: Life isn't about attainment—it is about obtainment. Out of obtainment you find attainment. If you try attainment without obtainment all that you gain will mean nothing. *Pastor Dan*: The only thing that really matters is that which really matters to God.
- b. **Mark 16:15-18** Jesus said to His disciples, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup> He who believes [in me] and is baptized will be saved [from the penalty of God's wrath and judgment]; but he who does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup> And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; <sup>18</sup> they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.
- c. *Kathryn Kuhlman*: Wherever you find the presence of the Holy Spirit there will always be the supernatural. The supernatural does not come through a great organization. We've organized ourselves to death. It will be the greatest day the church has ever known when it gets to the place where it is no longer completely dependent upon organization. The Holy Spirit must have freedom and liberty to
- d. **Romans 8:11-17**
- e. *Jim Cymbala*: We need something with the mark of heaven on it. Too much of our religious life is made up of programs and human ideas, talents and strategies. While these have value, the pitifully fail to meet the need of the hour. What is missing today is something for heaven itself, something from God the Holy Spirit that fills and floods our lives ... something from heaven that grips us ... something that stirs our hearts to the depth ....

- 3. Pray in the Holy Spirit** (*Ephesians 6:18* *Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.*)
- a. *Pastor Dan:* Tongues is a supernatural ministry of prayer which enables us to communicate with God on His level of understanding in Spirit and Truth. Tongues is the language of the heart that enables us to communicate our feelings, passions and desires to God through the help of the Holy Spirit
  - b. *Mark 16:17* These signs shall follow them that believe ... they will speak with new tongues.
  - c. *Romans 8:26-27* The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings [and utterances] that cannot be expressed in words.<sup>27</sup> And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.
  - d. *1 Corinthians 14:13-14* For if I pray in tongues, my spirit is praying, but I don't understand what I am saying.<sup>15</sup> Well then, what shall I do? I will pray in the spirit, and I will also pray in words I understand. I will sing in the spirit, and I will also sing in words I understand.
  - e. *Kenneth Hagin:* We are spiritual beings; we need to pray out of our spirits and not just out of our heads. Praying with the understanding is good and effective in many situations, yet we cannot succeed with just mental praying alone. Spiritual praying is praying out of your spirit in Spirit-given utterances (*Acts 2:4*). Praying in tongues is a way in which we can magnify God.
  - f. *Andrew Murray:* On the day of Pentecost, speaking "with other tongues" ... was the result of being filled or baptized with the Holy Spirit. Twenty years after the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit (*Acts 16:1-7*), in the city of Ephesus, this miracle is again witnessed—men speak in tongues and prophesy when they are baptized in the Holy Spirit. We may depend on it that where the reception of the Holy Spirit and the possibility of being filled with Him are proclaimed and appropriated, the blessed life of the Pentecostal community will be restored in all its fresh power.
  - g. *1 Corinthians 14:2, 4* For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries....  
<sup>4</sup>He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself

**Closing thought and Invitation: Watchman Nee:** Suppose I went into a book-shop, selected a two volume book, and having put down the price, walked out of the shop carelessly leaving one volume on the counter. When I discovered the oversight, what should I do? I should go straight back to recover the forgotten volume, but I should not dream of paying anything for it again. I should simply remind the shopkeeper that both volumes were already paid for, thank him again for the second one, and without further ado march happily out of the shop with my possession under my arm. Would you not do the same under the same circumstances? But you are under the same circumstances. If you have fulfilled the conditions you are entitled to two gifts, not just one. You have already taken the remission of your sins. Why not just come, and if you have never done so, thank Him for the gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit now?