

# Baptism with the Holy Spirit

## Bible Study 1

This is a self paced bible study on the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. It can be done individually, or as a group.

Before you begin each section, take a few moments to invite the Holy Spirit to teach you and give you understanding as you study. He wants to help you, so expect good things!

Following each section, take some time to meditate on what you have learned. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding on any areas where you have questions.

### **PART ONE:**

Go through each of these four groups of scripture below, one group at a time. Read the story, and the surrounding context. Then answer the following questions about the event, where possible.

#### SCRIPTURE GROUPS 1-4

1 - Acts 1:1-11, Acts 2:1-41 (Pentecost)

2 - Acts 8:4-25 (Samaritan Revival)

3 - Acts 10:34-48 (Cornelius and household), Acts 11:1-18 (Peter's recap of Cornelius)

4 - Acts 19:1-7 (Disciples at Ephesus)

#### QUESTIONS

1 - When they received the baptism with the Holy Spirit, did it occur at the same time they received salvation, or were they already Christians for a least a few minutes?

2 - Did it occur as a definite event, or was it a process that happened over time?

3 - Were there any prerequisites to receive it? If so, what were they?

4 - Did they receive it spontaneously, or did they have someone pray for them or help them receive it?

5 - How did they know if they received it or not? Was there any evidence that could be observed by bystanders? Was there any question as to whether or not it happened? Why or why not?

6 - What kind of terminology is used to describe what was actually happening? What words and phrases are used to describe it?

7 - How important was the baptism to the early disciples and apostles? What was their attitude towards it?

## **PART TWO:**

Take some time to read through the following scriptures in the Gospels and Acts where the baptism is mentioned or alluded to, one at a time, and then answer the questions that follow:

Matthew 3:11

Mark 1:7-8

Luke 3:16

John 1:33

Luke 11:9-13

Luke 24:49

John 7:37-39

John 14:12

Acts 1:5-8

1 - What kind of words and phrases are used to describe the baptism?

2 - What kinds of ideas or thoughts do you get about the purpose of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit from these verses?

3 - Based on what you have read so far, what level of importance do you believe the bible places on this subject? What are some reasons for your answer?

4 - Are there any themes or principles that are consistent across many or all of the verses and stories that you have read so far? If so what are they?

## **PART THREE:**

Using what you have learned in the previous sections, take some time and see if you can come up with a definition of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. It can be several sentences long, but it doesn't need to be more than a paragraph or two. This can be done individually or as a group.

Try to identify any facts or principles that hold true in everything you have read so far.

Now, go back and check it against the four stories in Acts (listed in Part 1).

Does your definition match the bible? Do you need to make any changes to it? Modify it if needed until you feel confident that it is biblical.

#### **PART FOUR :**

Interview 10 people that have received the baptism, and ask them how they received it. Take notes.  
(NOTE: for group studies, this should be done as homework by each individual prior to the group study).

When you hear their stories, keep in mind that you are hearing their perspective of what happened, based on what they understand about it. For example, you may find some people who don't know if they received it or not. Or you may hear some unusual or unbiblical stories. Depending on the individual, some things will have to be taken with a grain of salt.

If you are doing this as a group study, share your stories that you collected and discuss them.

Answer these questions:

- 1 - Do any of the testimonies match any of the four testimonies you read in Acts in weeks 1-4?
- 2 - Do any of the testimonies contradict the bible? If so, how?
- 3 - Did the people you talked with seem to have a good understanding of the subject? Did they seem comfortable talking about it?
- 4 - Do any new questions arise for you? If so, what are they?

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