## PART A

FOUNDATION TWO

# INTIMACY WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

NEW NATURE CHURCH

If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

## VISION

That every believer is able to have complete intimacy with God through the Holy Spirit, and operate in the wisdom and power of the Holy Spirit to bring heaven's reality here on earth.

## INTIMACY WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

We are created for intimate relationship with God. In the beginning God made man (Adam and Eve) in His own image and walked with them in the garden of Eden. What an amazing picture of intimacy. God says "I am making you to look and be just like me in this world, and I am going to walk with you." (Genesis Chapters 1-3). Then when sin entered the world (when Adam and Eve ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil) mankind was not able to be in intimate relationship with God anymore.

God loves intimacy! The whole point of Jesus is that he removed our sins by dying on the cross so that we can be in relationship with God again. He wanted this so much that God has brought us into His family and we are now His children. For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. Romans 8:14

## JESUS IS BAPTISED WITH WATER AND WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

In the New testament there was a man called John the Baptist who was Jesus' cousin. He was baptising people for repentance of their sins but he knew someone greater was coming and he said "I baptise you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Matthew 3:11.

A few verses later Jesus shows up and asks John to baptise him. Here we see the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus and remaining. As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. Read Matthew 3:16-17.

## THE STORY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Let's recap what we know about God's desire to be in relationship with us. God made Adam and Eve so that he could be with them every day, but they sinned and that caused them to be separated from God. Fast forward thousands of years and God sent his Son Jesus to pay the price for our sin on the cross so that we can now be in relationship with God again.

Jesus himself was baptised and received the Holy Spirit. It's interesting to note that Jesus didn't do any miracles or ministry until after he received the Holy Spirit.

The disciples loved spending every day with Jesus, so you can imagine how they felt after Jesus rose from the dead and told them he was about to leave them and return to heaven. But Jesus tells them not to worry because they are about to receive "power from on high" - the Holy Spirit!

John 16:7 - But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate (Counselor, Encourager, Comforter) won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

Notice Jesus called the Holy Spirit 'him', the Holy Spirit is a person.

Read Luke 24:49 and Acts 1: 4-8.

## THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GIVEN (PENTECOST)

The disciples see Jesus go up into heaven and are then left here on earth waiting for the "gift" that Jesus told them they would receive. They met together each night in the upper room of a house praying and waiting. Over time some people stopped coming until there was only 120 people left. One night as they were praying there was a violent wind and tongues of fire came down and rested on each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in tongues.

Read Acts 2:1-4.

It must have been quite a sight and sound as people came and gathered outside the house and the bible says they could each hear the disciples speaking in different languages. This was so all of the people could hear the message of Jesus in their own language.

Read Acts 2:5-13.

Straight after the disciples all receive the Holy Spirit and Fire, Peter stands up, full of the power and boldness of the Holy Spirit, and speaks to the crowd of people that had gathered. He tells them about Jesus and calls for them to repent and be baptised.

3000 people responded and were added to the church that day! Wow, the first New Testament church started with a bang!

You might like to read the whole chapter of Acts 2 for the full story.

## WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

We know that the Holy Spirit is poured out on people like in Acts chapter 2 but who is the Holy Spirit and what is He given to us for?

Jesus gives us a powerful description of the Holy Spirit in John 14:15-16 'If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – the Spirit of truth.'

The word "advocate" translated in verse 16 is the word allos. "Allos meaning Comforter or Advocate equals 'one besides Me, in addition to Me, but one just like Me'. In other words Jesus is saying 'He will do in my absence what I would do if I were physically present with you.'

The Holy Spirit is one who is just like Jesus so it is literally like we get to have Jesus living with us. He comes to live with us and in us.

## 1 Corinthians 3:16

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

The Holy Spirit is described in many ways in the New Testament. Each name or description reveals an element of His character, person or function. Following is a list of some of the other ways the Holy Spirit is described. Read:

Luke 24:49 - Power from on High

John 15:26 & John 16:7- Counselor/Advocate

John 16:8 - He convicts the world of guilt

John 16:13 - Spirit of truth, guiding us into all truth. He will tell you what is yet to come. The Spirit speaks what he hears from the Father and Jesus.

Romans 8:26-27 - Helps us pray by interceding.

2 Timothy 1:7 - Power, Love & Self-Discipline/Sound Mind.

1 John - 2:27 Teacher.

So to recap, we know that the Holy Spirit is just like Jesus, lives inside of us and gives us power, helps us, teaches us, convicts us and counsels us!

## BENEFITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We can pray and sing with our own minds but we can also pray and sing directed by the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor 14:14-15 - For if I pray in a tongue [another language given by God], my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

The Holy Spirit directs us and shows us how to worship God.

John 4:24 - God is Spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.

When our lives are filled with the Holy Spirit we bear the fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-25 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

When we live life filled with the Spirit, there is freedom from anything that is not of God. We can have freedom from fear, anxiety, anger and jealousy. 2 Corinthians 3:17 - Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

The Holy Spirit is our helper. He teaches us and helps us to remember what God's word says. John 14:26 - 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 have said to you.

The Holy Spirit gives us joy, peace and hope. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

The Holy Spirit helps us to obey God.

Ezekiel 26:26-27 - And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.

And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

We get the wisdom of truth to impart to others when we are speaking to them.

1 Corinthians 2:13 - And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

God gives us his love, to enable us to love those the world calls unlovable.

Romans 5:5 - And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

## BENEFITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CONT.

We don't have to live from our old sinful nature anymore (the flesh), instead we get to live by the Spirit. This is how we know that we belong to God's family.

Romans 8:9 - You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

The power of the Holy Spirit in us enables us to destroy the work of the devil and see people healed. Acts 10:38 - And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

The Holy Spirit tells us things that are to come, prophesies and words of knowledge for other people. John 16:13 - When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

The Holy Spirit enables us to prophesy and gives us dreams and visions.

Acts 2:17-18 - I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

When we speak God's Holy Spirit will speak through us. It is like he is using us as his mouthpiece. Matthew 10:20 - For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Just like the Spirit was on Jesus, it is on us. We have the Spirit so that we can do all of the things mentioned in Luke 4:18 -The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come.

We are told to spend our lives making disciples and baptising them in water and the Holy Spirit. This is our purpose here on earth. Matthew 28:19 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



For more testimonies search YouTube for "Being led by the Holy Spirit - Kickstart weekend" or click here.

## PART B

FOUNDATION TWO

## BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

NEW NATURE CHURCH

## All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

### BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT WITH THE EVIDENCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES

One of the questions many people have about the Holy Spirit is "Do I have to speak in tongues to be baptised with the Holy Spirit?"

Speaking in Tongues is the evidence of Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Tongues is specifically mentioned in three instances where the Holy Spirit is given. Read Acts 2:1-13, Acts 10:44-46, Acts 19:4-7. It is also significant that the very first time the Holy Spirit fills the believers they speak in tongues.

Let's have a look at the times where tongues is not mentioned specifically at the time of Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Acts 9:17-19 is another example where the Holy Spirit was given to a man named Paul, it is not recorded that he spoke in tongues, however Paul later writes in one of his letters to the church that he prays in tongues constantly (1 Cor 14:18). Clearly, although not recorded at the time of his Baptism with the Holy Spirit, he does still speak in tongues.

In Samaria there was a Sorcerer named Simon. He saw people being baptised with water and then the bible says "he saw that the Holy Spirit was given." Clearly there was something to see as an outward sign that the Holy Spirit was given and from the previous examples of the Holy Spirit being given, we can assume this outward sign was speaking in tongues. Acts 8:14-18.

## BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SEPARATE TO BEING SAVED

Is baptism in the Holy Spirit separate to being saved? The two should closely follow one another (ideally within minutes or hours) but scripture is clear that Baptism in the Holy Spirit occurred separately to salvation, therefore it is not the same thing. Here are a few examples.

A man called Philip preaches about Jesus in a city called Samaria and many people were saved. The disciples Peter and John hear about all the people being saved in Samaria and come to baptise them in the Holy Spirit as they had only been baptised in water and not yet received the Holy Spirit.

Read Acts 8:4-19.

A man named Paul had already accepted Jesus when another man named Ananias laid hands on him to receive the Holy Spirit. Read Acts 9:17.

This same man Paul went to the city of Ephesus and met some believers in Jesus who only knew of John the Baptist's baptism of repentance. Paul then baptised these believers into Jesus and in the Holy Spirit. So before Paul came they were saved but not yet filled with the Holy Spirit. Read Acts 19:1-7.



How do you know when a bucket is full of water? When it starts overflowing! It is the same with the Holy Spirit. When we are completely filled up until there is no more room in us, He overflows out of our mouths with His language: speaking in tongues.

The Spirit is in you for you, the Spirit is on you for others.

## FOUNDATION PART B

## WHAT IS TONGUES FOR?

We have our own personal tongue which is our own prayer language for strengthening us and being able to talk intimately with God. 1 Cor 14:4 - A person who speaks in tongues is strengthened personally.

The Spirit talks to God on behalf of us. Romans 8:26-27 - In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. The Holy Spirit directs our spirit language to pray in accordance with the will of God.

Tongues is the Holy Spirit in us speaking directly to God. It's like Holy Spirit bypasses our minds to speak with God. 1 Corinthians 14:2 - For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God.

There is also a corporate tongue which needs interpretation. This is when the Holy Spirit might lead someone to bring a word publicly in the church, but unless it is interpreted, no one knows what it means. Corporate tongues is to build up the church. This edifies the church. 1 Corinthians 14:27-28 - If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.

It is important to note that the Bible never forbids speaking in tongues in the Church as a corporate declaration, just that it be done in order and interpreted. 1 Corinthians 14:39 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

## FOUNDATION PART B

## IS BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR EVERYONE?

Read Acts 2:4 - This verse doesn't say that some of them were filled with the Holy Spirit, but ALL of them.

Read Luke 11:9-13 - The only qualification, other than repentance from sin, is for us to ask for the Holy Spirit. The bible says God is a good Dad and will give this gift to us when we ask.

Read Matt 28:19. Jesus commands the disciples to baptise ALL new disciples in the Holy Spirit.

## WHO CAN BAPTISE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Any believer who has been baptised in the Holy Spirit can pray for another believer to be baptised with the Holy Spirit.



## HOW DO WE RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT?

We receive the Holy Spirit by faith just like we receive salvation the same way. The Holy Spirit clearly partners with us to baptise others in the Holy Spirit, however, He is not limited by man and is not restricted to this. The scriptures below show where the Holy Spirit was given spontaneously by God and others where the Holy Spirit Baptism was as a result of believers laying their hands on new believers. We have already read these verses, but here is a breakdown of them when categorised.

## Spontaneous

Acts 2:1-13 - Pentecost

Acts 10: 44-46 - Peter sharing with the Centurion's household

## God's Gift Laying on of Hands

Acts 8:4-19 - Peter and John Baptising in Samaria

Acts 9:17 - Ananias and Paul

Acts 19:1-7 - The believers in Ephesus

## HOW DO I PRAY IN TONGUES AFTER MY INITIAL BAPTISM?

Sometimes we choose to pray in tongues, other times He prompts us to pray in tongues and we choose to obey the Holy Spirit's leading. Tongues can be turned on and off by our own choices, as with any gift we must choose to use it.

## Read 1 Cor 14:14,18.

Paul says in these verses "If I pray". He is saying that it is by his own choice to continue to pray in tongues. It is like all the gifts of the Spirit, we partner with God, he does not force himself upon us.

There are times when the Holy Spirit will come upon us powerfully and he is wanting to speak through us if we will allow him. Sometimes we might get new sounding words and a burden from the Holy Spirit to pray. There are many examples of people praying in what sounds like another language until they feel that they have prayed all that the Holy Spirit has given them to pray. We might also have this experience when praying in English. You may have a burden to pray for a particular person or situation and then after praying you feel the burden lift.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED PRAYING IN TONGUES?

We partner with the Holy Spirit so don't get too hooked up on how to start. Luke 11:13 says that God desires to give us this good gift! It is never about pressuring people into speaking but allowing God to move. One friend of ours received prayer for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit at a meeting and nothing happened. That night in the middle of the night she woke up and found she was speaking in tongues. Praise God, this was His plan for her.

If you haven't yet received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, you can ask another Spirit filled believer to put their hands on you and pray for you to receive. If you are reading this on your own, you can ask God for this gift for yourself.

Remember the purpose is intimacy with God through his Holy Spirit. We should be asking for the Holy Spirit because we want intimacy with God, not because we want tongues. Keep focused on receiving what God has for you, this amazing gift of his Holy Spirit living inside of you.