

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR
SEMINAR #5
PRAYING FOR THE BAPTISM IN THE
HOLY SPIRIT

I. Introductory Explanation

1. We are here to claim Christ's promise of the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)

The Lord is the baptizer in the Holy Spirit. We will lay hands on you and pray with you. You ask Him to give what He promised and expect it.

Different things will happen to different people. Don't seek a particular kind of experience. Just turn to the Lord and receive a new life in the Holy Spirit from Him.

II. How to Yield to Tongues

Tongues come when a person is baptized in the Holy Spirit. Everyone should want the gift of tongues - it is a GIFT FROM GOD.

We would never say to the Lord, "I want what You have for me, except _____."

DO NOT EXPECT THE HOLY SPIRIT TO FORCE YOU TO SPEAK IN TONGUES. YOU HAVE TO YIELD TO IT. THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES NOT "TAKE US OVER."

HE LEAVES US OUR FREEDOM: "They spoke in other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance."
(Acts 2:4)

We speak; the Spirit forms the speech. If the Spirit would inspire us to write a letter, we would have to sit down and write, so when the Spirit inspires us to speak in tongues, we have to speak.

After you ask to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and ask for the gift of tongues, then yield to it. Begin by speaking out if necessary, beginning by just making meaningless sounds. **THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL FORM THEM.**

The steering wheel of a car can be turned more easily when the car is in motion, so the Holy Spirit can form the gift of tongues in us more readily when we are speaking.

Don't pray in English or in any language you know.

Don't be afraid that it is just you and not the Spirit. don't be analyzing the sounds. Don't worry if it seems like babble or baby talk.

Make the sounds an act of worship to God. Focus on Him, not on the sounds.

Some of you may also be given words of prophecy in English, a message or an inspired prayer. Yield to it and speak out.

III. SOME IMPORTANT RIGHT ATTITUDES

RELAX - the more relaxed we are, the easier it is to receive the Lord's gifts. It is much harder to put something in a clenched fist than in an open relaxed hand.

DON'T BE AFRAID OF SOUNDING FOOLISH.

The Lord loves you and wants you to experience His love in a new way.

IV. A. Please do not leave after you are prayed with, but wait so that we can all end together.

While you are waiting, pray for your brothers and sisters and praise the Lord.

We want an atmosphere of prayer to pervade the room.

B. The Commitment to Christ

Do you renounce Satan and all wrongdoing?

Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that He died to free us from our sins, and that He rose to bring us new life?

Will you follow Jesus as your Lord?

Lord Jesus Christ, I want to belong to you from now on. I want to be freed from the dominion of darkness and the rule of Satan, and I want to enter into your Kingdom and be part of your people. I will turn away from all wrongdoing, and I will avoid everything that leads me to wrongdoing. I ask you to forgive all the sins that I have committed. I offer my life to you, and I promise to obey you as my Lord. I ask you to baptize me in the Holy Spirit and give me the gift of tongues.

C. Closing

1. Different people have different experience. Feeling is not the important thing. Look for the new ways God is at work in you and respond to it: a new desire for prayer, for Scripture, etc.

If you did not speak in tongues tonight, expect it to come soon. If you were not sure, just keep doing what you were doing and ask the Lord to form it into the gift of tongues if it isn't.

2. Be aware that Satan can tempt one to doubt.

Satan is seeking to rob everyone of God's gift. For him, the next best thing to keeping you from getting it is to keep you from using it. If he can convince you that the key in your hand is not the key to the door, he can keep you from using it to open the door. Don't let feelings of doubt bother you. Remember the fact that God promised it and you asked for it.

3. You can't expect all your problems to go away at once, though many will.

THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL MAKE A BIG CHANGE IN YOU, AND YOU WILL SEE IT. BUT NOT EVERYTHING WILL BE CHANGED. SOME THINGS WILL TAKE A WHILE TO GET WORKED OUT. BUT NOW YOU HAVE A NEW POWER TO USE IN WORKING THEM OUT.

4. Be faithful in daily prayer and community meetings. Pray in tongues every day. "He who is faithful with a little will be set over much." (Matt. 25)

WHAT HAPPENED TONIGHT IS JUST A BEGINNING.!