Baptism in the Holy Spirit

There is some confusion regarding baptism in the Spirit. If you know that you have been baptized in the Spirit, you can more confidently seek the filling of the Spirit.

(From the book of Acts), **Baptism in the Holy Spirit—**

**1. Came from the Risen Christ**

Equivalent descriptions—

The *promise* of the Spirit 1:4; 2:33

*Baptism* in the Spirit 1:5

The *pouring forth* of the Spirit 2:17, 33

The *gift* of the Spirit 2:38

**2. Was Outwardly Manifested at Times**

After *conversion* 1:3-4; 2:1

By the wind and fire 2:2, 3

By their speaking in other tongues 2:4

At *conversion* 10:44-47; 11:15-18

Not in *all believers* 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 30

**3. Resulted in Filling with the Spirit** 2:4

*Repeated* filling for powerful ministry

1:8; 4:8; 4:29-31; 13:9

*Continuous* filling for spiritual fruit

13:52; Ephesians 5:15-21

**Concluding Challenge**

*How to be* filled with the Spirit

John 7:37-39

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. What was the most important or helpful thing you heard in the sermon?

2. What questions did the sermon raise in your mind?

3. Have you developed the habit of asking the Lord to fill you with His Spirit?

4. How can we have a greater filling with the Spirit?

5. Our relationship with the Spirit may be described as “one baptism and many fillings.” How does knowing that you have been baptized in the Spirit increase your confidence for seeking the filling of the Spirit?

**Additional notes**

Every baptism includes four basic elements.

Text Baptizer Baptized Element Purpose

Mk 1:4 John Jews Water Repentance/

Forgiveness

Mat 28:19 Pastor New Water Be recognized

converts as Christ’s disciples

1 Co 10:1-2 God Israelites Cloud United to Moses

& Sea as their leader

Joh 1:33 Jesus All saved Holy Spirit Joined to the

1 Co 12:13 people body of Christ

The Holy Spirit is not the One who baptized us; Jesus is the Baptizer. The Holy Spirit is the element in which we were immersed. Therefore, it is best to speak of baptism “*in* the Spirit.” (The preposition sometimes translated “by” in this phrase in the gospels, Acts and 1 Corinthians, may be translated “in,” “with,” or “by.”)

Best book—John R. W. Stott, *Baptism and Fullness: The Work of the Holy Spirit Today*, 2nd edition (InterVarsity Press, 1975).