

"If any man is thirsty, let him come to me! Let the man come and drink who believes in me! As scripture says: From his heart shall flow fountains of living water." (John 7:37-38)

PREPARING TO BE BAPTISED IN THE SPIRIT

This week the Lord himself wants to prepare you. Do not be afraid or worried. Do not ask yourself how you can possibly get ready. Just ask the Lord to prepare you. He loves you, and he will do it. Let the words of life speak to you. God's word will prepare you.

Do not let Satan confuse you. If you feel confusion or doubt or anxiety come on you, tell Satan to go away. Tell him you belong to Jesus and Jesus is your Lord. Put your faith in God.

God loves you. He wants to give you the fullness of life in the Spirit. He has promised that he will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask. Simply ask in confidence.

Satan will tell you that you do not deserve to be baptised in the Spirit, that you are not worthy of it. And he is right. No one is worthy of it. But God is not going to baptize you in the Spirit because you are worthy of it, he will do it because he loves you. He will do it because Jesus died for you.

Jesus will change your life when you make the commitment to him and are prayed with. You will begin a new life in the Spirit. You can count on it. Simply rely on God's promise.

Do not look for a particular kind of experience. Some people experience a great deal at the moment when they are prayed with, while others experience very little. What you want is the Holy Spirit, not an experience. Once you are in a new relationship with the Holy Spirit, you will experience a new sense of his presence. You will see him work in your life in a new way.

Ask the Lord for the gift of tongues. Tongues is a gift of God, and even if you do not understand fully what it will do for you, trust God that his gifts really are gifts and worth having. If you are unwilling to receive the gift of tongues, you are putting a block on the Lord's work and the Holy Spirit will not be free to work fully in you. Open yourself to all of God's gifts, with no reservations.

Relax. God loves you. Remember that his fatherly love surrounds you. Remember that he sent his Son to save you. Each day entrust your life to his hands. Read these words often this week. They will help you to prepare to be baptised in the Spirit:

"Our soul awaits the Lord, he is our help and shield; our hearts rejoice in him, we trust in his holy name. Lord, let your love rest on us. as our hope has rested in you."

THE COMMITMENT TO CHRIST

In the next seminar, you will make a commitment to Christ before being prayed with to be baptised in the Spirit. The leader will ask you three questions, and after you answer them, you will say a prayer expressing a commitment to Christ. Meditate on these questions and on the prayer during this week:

- *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.