



Spirit Baptism

To be immersed, or saturated in God's Holy Spirit.

I have to admit, I'm not the best at waiting. In other words, patience doesn't come easy for me! With that in mind, I can imagine how hard it must have been for the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the empowering of God's Spirit before launching out to fulfill the Great Commission.

In hindsight, I'm sure they were glad they waited. The evidence of their empowering and subsequent reliance on God's Spirit demonstrated that. The church today needs to learn a new reliance on the empowering of God's Spirit. I'm not saying there aren't great things that God is doing, but I know there is so much more He desires to do.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.

The issue for us isn't so much waiting as much as it is needing. In the land of plenty, it is sometimes difficult to live dependently upon God's Spirit. Yet, I don't believe that the blessings need to be stripped away to bring us to that place of reliance. We can live there right now, if we choose to!



WATCH

Play the video prepared for this lesson by Pastor Derek. Video sessions are available for download at www.cclasvegas.org/GROUPS



PRAY (10 min)

As a Home Group, take a moment and confess your need for the empowering of God's Spirit. Pray that God will graciously grant His empowering to your group.

new acts

This is a new section in the curriculum that will ask you to discuss the REACH portion from the previous week and share how you applied the teaching to your life. Last week you were asked:

In your devotional time, spend extra time praying for your home group that God would refresh your hearts, and lead you in being used for His glory.

What did God show you in prayer and how have hearts in your home group been refreshed and strengthened?

(10 min)



REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them together.

1. What does it mean to be baptized in God's Spirit? According to the Scriptures, why is the baptism of the Spirit so essential? Write down the supporting verses.

"Your life is one running miracle empowered by God."

Derek Neider

2. Pastor Derek talked about the different ways the Spirit works in our lives.

Describe those three different ways and include supporting Scriptures.

3. What do you need the empowering of the Spirit for in your life today? Be specific and make a list.

Take a step of faith and ask God to empower you by His Spirit for those things. Accompany that prayer by faith this week believing that as you walk by faith God will empower you.

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

4. How can you encourage each other in your home group to experience the baptism of God's Spirit? Be transparent with each other.

Maybe you haven't even thought about the baptism of God's Spirit or the Spirit empowering you for kingdom work. Pray for each other.

"Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven."

N.T. Wright



REACH

Considering what God revealed to you this week, be specific in your daily prayer time to ask for the baptism of God's Spirit. Expect, God to supply the power you need for the day He has given you.

Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear how God empowered you and the "new acts" that He is working through your life.