

Let's Discuss...The Trinity

PART 6_Empowerment from the Holy Spirit



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Scriptures mentioned:

And when you believed in Christ, He identified you as His own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom He promised long ago.
Ephesians 1:13b NLT

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.
Acts 1:8a NLT

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.
Matthew 7:7 NIV

So if you sinful people 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.
Luke 11:13 NLT

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.
Acts 2:1-4 ESV

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Summary

James vulnerably shares his testimony of radical salvation from a life of sin - at the age of 4, LOL! Despite accepting Jesus at a young age, it wasn't until he was 17 that he experienced the baptism of the Holy Spirit in a way that he likens to having finally put the "batteries" into his Christian walk. We discuss how we each experience the Holy Spirit differently, but His empowering presence is available to anyone who wishes to receive it.

Let's Discuss...

- Do you feel you've experienced the Holy Spirit not just helping or encouraging you but in such a way that truly empowers you to live the Christian life? Such as "putting the batteries in", as James describes. If not, can you identify any hindrances to this?
- Nohora talks about how maybe God doesn't always "manifest" Himself in every situation, or that maybe He's always there but we aren't always aware... Does one seem more likely to you?
- Some of us have experienced the empowerment of the Holy Spirit in our lives, and eventually felt it fade away. Why is this so? How can we sustain and grow this empowering presence over the course of a lifetime?
- How often do you stop and really think about the fact that God, the Creator of the universe, puts His Spirit in us...in you?! This is something to marvel at, not to take lightly! How does it make you feel to deeply reflect on this? Does it feel empowering? Draw you closer to Him?

Let's Pray...

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.
Acts 1:8a NLT

- Take a minute to be still and reflect in wonder at the fact that the Spirit of God lives in us! Wow. Let's thank God for the empowerment that the Holy Spirit gives us to live for Him and pray that we never become so accustomed to Spirit's working in our lives that we take it for granted.

Let's Go Deeper...

- **The Empowering Presence: Week Eight: Tongues** by John Mark Comer at Garden Church [video]
- **Holy Spirit** by BibleProject [video]
- **Holy Spirit Night** with Cash Luna at Hillsong Church [video]