

Power points of faith #6 being filled with the Holy Spirit

Title / Intro - New series - power points for faith - re: sharing good news - what is it, how do we live it, how do we share it?

Started at very beginning.... Jesus. How to become a Christian? 'believe in Jesus' - Saving faith, and assurance of faith - seen lifeboats and trains to help us. We saw that God's Word, not our feelings is where we should put our faith God's word is an immovable rock we can confidently build our lives upon. Last week we saw that we can experience God's love and forgiveness by faith - based upon His promise and the work of Jesus on our behalf.

1. we can still get our lives **muddled** up and break our enjoyment of God's love and forgiveness by unconfessed sin, we can confess our sin as instructed in 1 John 1.9; hopefully you have all had a chance to do that, and know with assurance that if you do your part, God is longing to **forgive** and cleanse, and is as good as his word, so we should trust him and not our feelings. Remember the train. How many people did that - were you forgiven? how do you know? God's word, not feelings, although often as with the train, when we put our trust in God's word, feelings often follow along, but they are not proof, they are just feelings.
2. remember our three circles? (recap **natural, worldly, spiritual**)
3. God has wanted more than a distant or formal relationship – he even wants more than us just being forgiven (although that is wonderful) – he wants to be with us, **be IN us!** to help us live an abundant, victorious and fruitful Christian life - the Spirit-filled life.
4. Learning how to be filled (controlled and empowered) with the **Holy Spirit** is the most important discovery of the Christian life.
 - Even though they had been with the Lord for the three years of His earthly ministry, the apostles were not equipped to carry out our Lord's Great Commission until they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).
 - Jesus promised that we would do greater works than He did (John 14:12-14).
 - Tragically, multitudes of Christians do not know how to be filled with the Spirit. - A quick overview of some important questions:
5. **Who** Is the Holy Spirit?
 - He is **God** (Acts 5:3, 4).
 - He is a **person**, not just a force or an impersonal being (1 Corinthians 12:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; Ephesians 4:30).
 - He is the **third person of the Trinity**, co-equal with God the Father and God the Son (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14).
6. **Why** Did the Holy Spirit Come?
 - He came to glorify Christ (John 16:7, 13, 14).
 - He came to lead us into all truth (John 16:13).
 - He came to give us power to know and live for Christ.
 - To enable us to live the abundant life (John 7:37-39).
 - To witness (Acts 1:8).
 - To pray effectively.
7. **What** Does It Mean To Be Filled With the Holy Spirit?
 - It means to be "directed and empowered."
 - To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be filled with **Jesus Christ**, the risen Son of God, and to abide in Him.
 - The word 'filled' means to be directed, controlled and empowered by the Holy Spirit. When I am led and empowered by the Holy Spirit, Christ will walk around in my body and live His resurrection life in and through me.
 - It involves an act of the will.

- Though all Christians are indwelt by the Spirit, a choice of the will is involved to be filled with the Spirit. Therefore not all Christians are filled with the Spirit.

8. Why Is the 'Average' Christian Not Filled With the Holy Spirit? [Train](#)

- Lack of knowledge. We just don't know, no-one has told us - that is the case with saving faith, assurance and ongoing forgiveness, that's why we are doing this series - we will never grow out of these things any more than we grow out of breathing or eating!
 1. some Christians continue to live in spiritual defeat and are not filled with the Spirit because of a lack of knowledge, which results in a lack of faith. If you don't know what the Bible says, you can't believe it.
- Because of unbelief.
 1. some Christians are not filled with the Holy Spirit because of unbelief.
 - sometimes because (remember the circle) it means that Jesus has to be on the throne, and we don't want that - so we struggle on in our own ability instead
 - God's good intention Luke 11.13 we can trust God to do a better job with our lives than we can.
 - sometimes because we think its all about feelings - whether that's our fears, or whether we think we should have some 'experience' to 'make it real' - by now we can see the mistake of that.

9. How Can You Be Filled With the Holy Spirit?

- You are filled with the Holy Spirit by faith.
 1. You became a Christian by faith (Ephesians 2:8, 9).
 2. You also walk in the Spirit by faith (Colossians 2:6).
 3. You do not have to beg God for what is already yours.
- Several factors contribute to preparing your heart for the filling of the Holy Spirit by faith.
 1. You must desire to live a life that will please the Lord (Matthew 5:6).
 2. You must confess any sin which the Holy Spirit calls to your remembrance and claim His forgiveness (1 John 1:9).
 3. You must be willing to surrender the control of your life to Christ according to the command of God (Romans 12:1, 2).
- What Are Two Passages to Claim the Filling of the Spirit?
 1. His command is that we be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).
 2. His promise is that He always answers when we pray according to His will (1 John 5:14, 15).
 - Cp tell you to get me chips, is it my will you get me chips? Of course.
- We cannot live the Christian life by our own good works.
- We can never make ourselves good enough to please God; we must live by faith in His finished work on the cross.

1) We cannot depend upon feelings. [train](#)

2) We live by faith.

- a. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is not a once-and-for-all experience. We are to be constantly filled, controlled and empowered with the Holy Spirit as a way of life.
- b. It is not simply by prayer that we are filled. It is by faith.

3) Application. [Open hands](#)

- a. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you any unconfessed sin (1 John 1:9).
- b. Claim the filling of the Holy Spirit by faith on the basis of God's command and God's promise (Ephesians 5:18, 1 John 5:14, 15).