

GROWTH RESOURCES

WHAT IS BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

There are many beautiful people that the evidence is there that they are Born Again, but by do not have any real power.

- They believe but they have no real evidence or demonstration of God's power in their lives.
- When we receive the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, instantly our lives are transformed.
- Primarily it is like an explosion on the inside that takes place. Our revelation knowledge and understanding of God instantly changes.
- Without the Baptism of the Holy Spirit we are nominal Christians whose lives are not affecting the lives of others.
- We have no victory, no joy, no power, and no outward manifestation of God's presence in our lives.

THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS THE TURNING POINT IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

This was a distinguishing time in the life of Jesus. **Jesus who was sinless was anointed with the Holy Spirit before He began His ministry.** How can any of us presume that we can be effective without the Holy Spirit then ourselves?

- *(Luke 3:21) Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized, and [while He was still] praying, the [visible] heaven was opened. (Luke 3:22) And the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, saying, You are My Son, My Beloved! In You I am well pleased and find delight!*
- *(Luke 4:1) THEN JESUS, full of and controlled by the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led in [by] the [Holy] Spirit. (v.2) For (during) forty days in the wilderness (desert), where He was tempted (tried, tested exceedingly) by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they were completed, He was hungry. (v.14) then Jesus went back full of and under the power of the [Holy] Spirit into Galilee, and the fame of Him spread through the whole region round about.*
- *(Luke 4:18) The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me, because He has anointed Me [the Anointed One, the Messiah] to preach the good news (the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to announce release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to send forth as delivered those who are oppressed [who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed, and broken down by calamity], (v.19) To proclaim the accepted and acceptable year of the Lord [the day when salvation and the free favours of God profusely abound].*

That the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus is very clear in Lk 3:21, 40, then 40days fasting and He immediately began His ministry.

- Jesus could do nothing of Himself. He was dependent on His Father and the Holy Spirit working through Him.
- Jesus was part of the Godhead, the trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three separate distinct persons and yet they are all one and because they are one they are so united, they are so dependent on each other that Jesus would not or I guess could not and did not do any miracles until the Holy Spirit came upon Him.

- God does not work independent of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the way that He operates in the world and in us and through us.
- So turning your life over and welcoming the Holy Spirit to come into your life is essential.
- It is absolutely essential for you in experiencing the victory God wants you to have.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF THE APOSTLES

BEFORE THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS IN THE LIVES OF THE APOSTLES

The apostles spend 3 ½ years with Jesus.

- They were weak men.
- They operated in strife and argued, just a few hours before Jesus was going to be crucified about who of them would be the greatest. Instead of thinking about Jesus and all He was going to go through, they were arguing among themselves which one was going to be the greatest. They showed carnality. They showed immaturity, and fear at the crucifixion.
- They all said they would never forsake Jesus and fight to the end if they needed to and yet when the time came and the soldiers came to take Jesus away they all forsook Him and fled.
- Everyone is familiar with Peter's denial of Jesus. He even took oaths to deny Jesus. He wept bitterly. He did not want to do that, but he was weak.

AFTER THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME IN THE LIVES OF THE APOSTLES

- Now after that, in contrast when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, this was approximately 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus, after the Holy Spirit came upon them, they were bold.
- They were transformed people illustrating the fact how necessary the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is.
- These were the same guys who forsook Jesus and fled but NOW:
 - Acts 3 – they preached the Gospel and over 3 000 were Born Again and Baptized in water.
 - Acts 4 – the Religious Leaders were grieved that this happen and took all disciples in custody.
 - Acts 4:5-14 emphasis in the HS – by the name of Jesus whom you crucified.
 - Even the enemies of the early apostles just had to back down. They were amazed at the boldness of the disciples.

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit made all the difference in their lives.

THE LAST MINUTE INSTRUCTION OF JESUS TO HIS DISCIPLES - (Acts 1:4-8)

- Jesus basically told them not to tell anyone of Jesus' resurrection from the dead until being baptized with the Holy Spirit. *"Wait for what the Father had promised"*
- Jesus preached the message.
- He demonstrated the power of God like no man has ever demonstrated it on earth.
- Therefore religious leaders killed and buried Him.
- To the natural mind it might seem that Jesus was just another man. But on the third day He rose from the dead and validated everything He said. He still walked on the earth and taught His disciples for 40 days after His resurrection.
- NOW the instruction of Jesus was very clear: Go and wait until you receive the power by the Holy Spirit coming upon you.

- This is also true for us. Maybe we are born again and excited that our sins are forgiven and want to tell everyone. But we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit so it won't just be us testifying but Christ living through us through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- You receive power, AFTER the Holy Spirit comes upon you.
- Is wonderful to be born again and delivered from sin. But as far as witnessing go you will not be a good witness until you receive the power of the Holy Spirit that comes upon you.
- The Holy Spirit comes and He enables us to take forgiveness and the awesome things God has done for us individually and minister it to others.
- And this is exactly the reason we have so much deadness in the church today. We have people who have without a doubt been born again and delivered from sin and who loves God and want to do things for God, but they are doing it in their own power and it just doesn't carry the weight and the power.
- *(2 Cor 3:6) [It is He] Who has qualified us [making us to be fit and worthy and sufficient] as ministers and dispensers of a new covenant [of salvation through Christ], not [ministers of the letter (of legally written code) but of the Spirit; for the code [of the Law] kills, but the [Holy] Spirit makes alive.*
- When you are speaking under guidance of the Holy Spirit it gives life to the hearers. Even if you say the right things, if not empowered by the Holy Spirit it brings death.

No one who believes in Bible can disbelieve that there is Baptism in the Spirit.

- John baptize in water another would baptize with Holy Ghost and with fire.
- It was prophesied before the ministry of Jesus.
- Jesus experienced it Himself.
- He told every disciple to wait until they receive it.
- Paul talking about Baptism and administering it all through the books of Acts
- Is history of the first century Church, when people received the Lord they also received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE EXPERIENCES IN REGARDS WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The first experience of the Christian life, salvation, is the incoming of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, to give us new life, God's life, eternal life. So you receive the person of the Holy Spirit when you are Born Again.
- The 2nd and separate experience, where the Holy Spirit comes upon you to anoint you and give you this power.

Many people who do not believe in the Holy Spirit Baptism also don't believe in miracles, deliverance from demons, living a victorious life over sickness, disease, poverty and that. They discount all of the power and victory. They are rejecting the power source for all of those miracles. If you don't accept the power of the Holy Spirit and receive Him, you will not receive healings etc. Because the Holy Spirit is the one who brings the power in your life.

The parts of the body of Christ that is growing and expanding are parts where all believes in the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. These are who gets the evangelism done and reaching the world. The ones fighting against it are stagnant or going backwards. I want to be on the side who is winning and have the excitement.

The very term “baptized in the Holy Spirit (1:5; 11:6) implies an immersion in the life of the Spirit. “John immersed in water; you will be immersed in the Spirit.” If the Spirit overwhelms you like a baptism, you can’t imagine Him merely sneaking in quietly while you are asleep and taking up inconspicuous residence. Power, boldness and confidence will follow.

- Jesus says in Acts 1:5 and 8 that baptism in the spirit means, “*You shall receive power... and you shall be my witnesses.*”
- This is an experience of boldness and confidence and victory over sin. A Christian without power is a Christian who needs a Baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- In Acts the Holy Spirit is not a silent influence but an experienced power. Believers experienced the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. They didn’t just believe it happened because an apostle said so.
- We do not initiate our salvation by believing. God initiates it by enabling us to believe
 - *(Eph 2:8-9) For it is by free grace (God’s unmerited favor) that you are saved (delivered from judgment and make partakers of Christ’s salvation) through [your] faith. And this [salvation] is not of yourselves [of your own doing, it came not through your own striving], but it is the gift of God. (v.9) Not because of works [not the fulfillment of the Law’s demands], lest any man should boast. [It is not the result of what anyone can possibly do], so no one can pride himself in it or take glory to himself].*
 - *(John 1:12) But to as many as did receive and welcome Him, He gave the authority (power, privilege, right) to become the children of God, that is, to those who believe in (adhere to, trust in, and rely on) His name. (John 1:13) Who owe their birth neither to bloods nor to the will of the flesh [that of physical impulse] nor to the will of man [that of a natural father], but to God. [They are born of God!].*
- (READ: Acts 11:15-17) Notice that the gift of the Spirit, or baptism in the spirit, is preceded by faith. *Acts 11:17 the NASB correctly say that God gave the Holy Spirit after they believed.* So the baptism of the Spirit (v16) or the receiving of the gift of the Spirit (v17) cannot be the same as the work of God before faith which enables faith. (Luke 2:39; 5:31; 16:14; 11:18; 15:10; 14:27) The baptism in the Spirit is an experience of the Spirit given after faith to faith.

THE RECEIVING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

HOW TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. **The word of God must be heard.** Peter has preached that in God’s plan Jesus was crucified, raised and exalted as Lord over all the universe and that forgiveness of sin and spiritual renewal can be had from Him. The Word has been heard. (READ: Acts 2:38-41)
 - *(Acts 2:38) And Peter answered them, Repent (change your views and purpose to accept the will of God in your innerselves instead of rejecting it) and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of and release from your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (v.39) For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is to and for you and your children, and to and for all that are far away, [even] to and for as many as the Lord our God invites and bids to come to Himself. (v.40) And [Peter] solemnly and earnestly witnessed (testified) and admonished (exhorted) with much more continuous speaking and warned (reproved, advised, encouraged) them, saying, Be saved from this crooked (perverse, wicked, unjust) generation). (v41) Therefore those who accepted and welcomed his message were baptized, and there were added that day about 3,000 souls.*

2. **The sovereign God must call men and women to Himself, or they will never come.** The promise in Acts 2:39. No one comes to faith in Christ unless the Father draws him. (John 6:44-45)
3. **We must “receive the word”. Acts 2:41.**
Receiving the word means that it becomes part of you so that you trust the Christ it presents.
 - You trust His provision for your forgiveness.
 - You trust His path for your life.
 - You trust His power to help you obey.
 - And you trust His promises for your future.
 - And that radical commitment to Christ always involves repentance – a turning away from your own self-wrought provisions and paths and powers and promises.
 - And when you really turn to Christ for new paths and new power, you open yourself to the Holy Spirit, because it is by His Spirit that Christ guides and empowers.
4. **We must give an open expression of faith in the act of water baptism in obedience to Jesus Christ.** Baptism was the universal experience of all Christians in the New Testament. There were no unbaptized Christians ever after Pentecost. Christ commanded it in Matthew 28:18-20 and the church practiced it. So we do today.

Therefore I invite you to experience the greatest thing in the world:

- Repent, trust Christ,
- open yourself to the power of His Spirit, be
- baptized in His name, and
- you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

EXAMPLES FROM THE SCRIPTURES

- They received the word (preaching), were baptized in water. So apostles came down and laid hands on the people, showing a very distinct separate experience from salvation.
- *(READ Acts 8:5-17):* When the Gospel were preached in the Bible, miracles accompanied it because they submitted to the Holy Spirit. If you reject the Baptism of the Holy Spirit you will not see miracles in your life.
- *(READ Acts 19:1-5):* Many churches not tell people of the Holy Spirit power.

WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL DO

The Holy Spirit has come to magnify Jesus and teach about Him:

- *(John 14:16-18)* And I will ask the Father, and **He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, and Standby)**, that he may remain with you forever – (v.15) *The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. **But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.*** (v.18) *I will not leave you as orphans [comfortless, desolate, bereaved, for lord, helpless]; I will come [back] for you.*
- *(John 14:26)* But the Comforter **(Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby)**, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, **to represent Me**

and act on my behalf], **he will teach you all things.** And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of; bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.

- (John 15:26) But the Comforter (**Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby**), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and **act on My behalf**], He will teach you all things. **And he will cause you to recall (will remind you of; bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.**
- (John 16:7) However, I am telling you nothing but the truth when I say **it is profitable (good, expedient, advantageous) for you that I go away.** Because if I do not go away, the Comforter (Counselor, helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengtheners, Standby) will not come to you [into close fellowship with you]; but if I go away, **I will send Him to you [to be in close fellowship with you].**
- (John 7:37b-39) And He cried in a loud voice, If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink! (v.38) **He who believes in Me who cleaves to and trusts in and relies on Me] as the Scripture has said, From his innermost being shall flow [continuously] springs and rivers of living water.** (v.39) But He was speaking here of the Spirit, Whom those who believed (trusted, had faith) in Him were afterward to receive. For the [Holy] Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified (raised to honour).

WHY SOME SPEAK IN TONGUES BUT HAVE NO POWER / WHY SOME NOT BAPTIZED

- Power becomes available to you, but you still have to draw it out by faith.
- You don't automatically get transformed in a victorious Christian by the Baptism of the Holy Spirit alone.
- Some say you must wait and the Father will decide for whom He wants to give it. Acts 1:4 says *it is a promise of the Father. (Acts 2:39) For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is to and for you and your children, and to and for all that are far away, [even] to and for as many as the Lord our God invites and bids to come to Himself.*
- We are not on the other side of the day of Pentecost and the Holy Spirit has been given and we don't have to wait for it any more. It has already been given.
- And as soon as you are ready you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit for the Holy Spirit is more desirous to fill and control you than you are to receive it.
- Sometimes it takes time before people are ready to receive it. Some people are not really hungry and ready for it and therefore it doesn't impact them. For those who are really hungry and desperate. God wants to fill you but you do have to reach out and receive it.
- (Luke 11:10) *For everyone who asks and keeps on asking receives; and he who seeks and keeps on seeking finds; and to him who knocks and keeps on knocking, the door shall be opened.*
- You can be delivered when you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit from addictions, drugs, depression etc.
- God wants you to have it!

RECEIVE POWER TO LIVE A SUPERNATURAL LIFE!

There are a few things that is important to know when receiving the baptism with the Holy Spirit:

1. **Jesus is the Baptizer of the Holy Spirit.** (Matt 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luk 3:16; Jn1:33)
 - (Matt 3:11) *I indeed baptize you in (with) water because of repentance that is, because of your changing your minds for the better, heartily amending your ways, with abhorrence of your past sins]. But He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy or fit to take off or carry; **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.***
 - (Jn 1:33b) *Upon Him Whom you shall see the Spirit descend and remain, that One is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.*
2. **You receive power from on high when you are filled with the Holy Spirit.**
 - (Acts 1:8) ***But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth.***
 - (Acts 2:4) *And they were **all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other (different, foreign) languages (tongues).** as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression [in each tongue in appropriate words].*
3. **The moment you are baptized with the Holy Spirit you start to speak secret truths and hidden things to God.**
 - (1 Cor 14:2) *For one who speaks in an [unknown] tongue **speaks not to men but to God, for no one understand or catches his meaning, because in the [Holy] Spirit he utters secret truths and hidden things [not obvious to the understanding].***
 - (1 Cor 14:14) *For if I pray in an [unknown] tongue, my spirit [by the Holy Spirit within me] prays, but my mind is unproductive [it bears no fruit and helps nobody].*
4. **You edify yourself through speaking these secret truths.**
 - (1 Cor 14:4a) **He who speaks in a [strange] tongue edifies and improves himself**
5. **You receive power (Acts 1:8) to witness and be effective in ministry in the kingdom of God.**
6. **In a few case studies we can see clearly what happens when people are baptized with the Holy Spirit.**
 - (Acts 10:45-46) *And the believers from among the circumcised [the Jews] who came with Peter were surprised and amazed, because the free gift of the Holy Spirit had been bestowed and poured out largely even on the Gentiles. (v46) For they heard them talking in [unknown] tongues (languages) and extolling and magnifying God.*
 - (Mark 16:17) *And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe: in My name they will drive out demons; **they will speak in new languages.***
 - (Luke 11:13) *If you then, evil as you are, know how to give good gifts [gifts that are to their advantage] to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to shoes who ask and continue to ask Him!*
7. **The main requirement for you to be baptized with the Holy Spirit, is that you should have a desire / thirst.**
 - (John 7:37-39) *Now on the final and most important day of the Feast, Jesus stood, and He cried in a loud voice, If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink! (v.38) **He who believes in Me [who cleaves to and trusts in and relies on Me] as the Scripture has said, From his innermost being shall flow (continuously) springs and rivers of living water.** (v.39) but He was speaking here of the Spirit, Whom those who believed (trusted, had faith) in Him were afterward to receive. For the [Holy] Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified (raised to honour).*

HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. **Give yourself to God unreservedly.** Honour and glorify Him in your spirit. You will experience the power of the Holy Spirit that will come over you.
2. **As the Holy Spirit gives you a word or language in your spirit, declare it in faith and allow streams of living water to flow through you.**
3. **Receive the Holy Spirit by faith and with expectation.** (*Mark 16:17a*) *And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe.*
4. **The Holy Spirit gives you an unknown tongue, you have to speak it. (You cannot speak if your mouth is closed and you cannot speak two languages at the same time).** (*Acts 2:4*) (*Acts 19:6*) *And as Paul laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke in [foreign, unknown] tongues (languages) and prophesied.*
5. **You don't receive the Person of the Holy Spirit (you received Him when you were regenerated). You receive the gift/power of the Holy Spirit.** (*1 Cor 14:14-15; 14:4*)
6. **You receive your spiritual language in your spirit and not in your mind.** (*1 Cor 14:14*)

AFTER YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit gives you power to testify and to be effective in ministry.
- You must continually pray in your tongue to remain edified.

TWO THINGS THAT CHARACTERIZE THIS EXPERIENCE

1. A Heart of Praise.

- In Acts 10:46 the disciples knew the Holy Spirit had fallen because *"they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling (or magnifying) God."*
- **Speaking in tongues is one particular way of releasing the heart of praise.**
- The heart in which the Holy Spirit has been poured out will stop magnifying self and start magnifying God.
- **Heartfelt praise and worship is the mark of a real experience of the Holy Spirit.**

2. Obedience.

- In (Acts 5:29) Peter and the apostles say to the Sadducees who had arrested them, *"We must obey God rather than men."*
- Then in (verse 32) he says, *"We are witnesses to these things, and so the Holy Spirit whom God gave to those who are obeying him."* ("Gave" is past tense; "obey" is present, ongoing tense.)
- **It is inevitable that when the object of your heart's worship changes, your obedience changes.**
- **When Jesus baptizes you in the Holy Spirit, and infuses you with a new sense of the glory of God, you have a new desire and a new power (1:8) to obey.**

REASONS FOR KEEPING ON SPEAKING IN TONGUES ONCE YOU RECEIVED IT

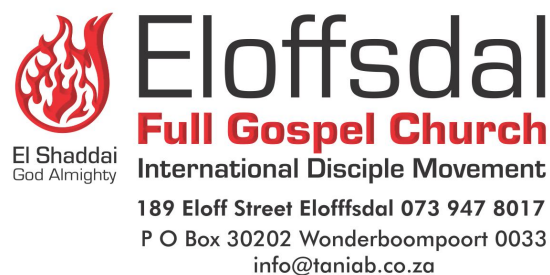
1. Paul encouraged the Corinthian Christians **to continue the practice of speaking with other tongues in their worship of God.**
2. He also encouraged them to **speak in tongues in their individual prayer life as a means of spiritual edification, or building up.** (1Cor 14:4a) *He who speaks in a [strange] tongue edifies and improves himself. (1 Cor 14:14a) For if I pray in an [unknown] tongue, my spirit [by the Holy Spirit within me] prays]. (1 Cor 14:13) Therefore, the person who speaks in an [unknown] tongue should pray [for the power] to interpret and explain what he says. (Jude 20) But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit.*
3. Speaking with other tongues **will keep us continually aware of the Holy Spirit's indwelling Presence. And our spirit language enables us to have spirit-to-Spirit communication with God.** Humans are spirit beings clothed with flesh-and-bone bodies. While man's sin deadened the spirit, Jesus brings the spirit back to life by imparting His everlasting life into us. The Holy Spirit gives us a spirit language so we can communicate directly with God. (John 4:24; 1 Cor 15:45; Gen 2:7; Rom 5:12; John 3:3-5, 16)
4. **Speaking in tongues eliminates the possibility of selfishness entering our prayer life.**
 - (Rom 8:26) *So too the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness; for we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, **but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf with unspeakable yearnings and groanings too deep for utterance.** (v.27) And he Who searches the hearts of men knows what is in the mind of the [Holy] Spirit [what His intent is], because the Spirit **intercedes and pleads [before God] in behalf of the saints according to and in harmony with God's will.***
 - (John 16:13-14) *But when He, the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving) Spirit) comes, he will **guide you into all the Truth** (the whole, full Truth). For He will not speak His own message [on His own authority]; but He will tell whatever he hears **[from the Father; He will give the message that has been given to Him], and He will announce and declare to you the things that are to come [that will happen in the future].** (v.14) He will honour and glorify Me, because He will take of (receive, draw upon) what is Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you.*
 - Speaking with other tongues is **praying as the Spirit gives utterances. It is Spirit-directed praying. And it eliminates the possibility of selfishness in our prayers.**
5. **The Holy Spirit directs our spirit language to pray accordance with the will of God. Probably the only time we can be assured that we are praying 100% in the will of God is when we are praying in our spirit language. God always answers requests that are made in alignment with His will** (Rom 8:27; 1 John 5:14-15)
6. **It provides a way for you to pray about things that you wouldn't think to pray about or aren't even aware of. We already know that the Holy Spirit helps us pray for particular situations when we don't know how to pray about those situations. In addition, the Holy Spirit, Who knows everything, can pray things through us for things about which our natural mind knows nothing.**
7. **The Scriptures exhort us to be filled with the Spirit and to pray in the new tongues of our spirit language. Our spirit language enables us to live in the Spirit, walk in the spirit, be led of the Spirit, have the fruit of the Spirit, manifest the gifts of the Spirit and**

go from glory to glory until we are transformed into His same image. (Gal 5:22-25; Rom 8:14; 1 Cor 12:7-11; 14:15; Eph 5:18; Acts 19:2; 2 Cor 3:18)

8. **Praying in tongues helps us fulfill God's predestined purpose for us to be conformed to the image of His Son.** (Gal 5:22-23; 2 Cor 3:18; 1 Cor 13:1-13; Rom 8:29)
9. **Praying in our spirit language is the main way we fulfill the scriptural admonition to "pray without ceasing." Christians can pray in tongues at any time. If we are in a place where it isn't convenient or wise to speak out loud in tongues, we can pray with our inner man without making an audible sound** (Eph 6:18; 1 Thess 5:17; Matt 26:41; Luke 18:1; 21:36; 1 Cor 14:15)
10. *(James 3:8) The human tongue..."It is a restless, evil, full of deadly poison."* **Yielding your tongue to the Holy Spirit to speak with other tongues is a big step toward being able to fully yield all of your members to God;** for if you can yield your tongue, you can yield any member of your body to God.
11. **Praying in tongues quiets the mind.** When Dr. Andrew Newberg, a neuroscientist, studied Christians praying in tongues, the study showed the **frontal lobes – the brain's control center – went quiet in the brains of Christians talking in tongues**, proving that speaking in tongues isn't a function of the natural brain but an operation of the Spirit (1 Cor 14:2, 14)
12. **It helps us learn to trust God more fully.** (Jude 20) **For example: faith must be exercised to speak with tongues because the Holy Spirit supernaturally directs the words we speak. You see, we don't know what the next word will be – we have to trust God for that. And trusting God in that area helps us learn to trust Him in another area.**

Speaking in tongues is the initial evidence of the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

- God has given us this wonderful spiritual gift to bless us, edify us, and refresh us throughout our lives on this earth.
- Let's receive what God has provided and enjoy the benefits of speaking in tongues!



If you would like to speak to someone about your situation, we would love to help you and pray with you. Please contact the El Shaddai FGC Offices or you can email us at info@taniab.co.za