

90 Days through the Bible

Gospel - Acts

What it means to be a Spirit-filled

Opening Thoughts

Characteristics of the Vineyard movement – “The radical middle”

- The best of both worlds:
 - Evangelicalism – To know God - To know about God through his word and to help others know God (*Evangelism – emphasizing the authority of the gospel and holding that salvation is from faith and grace rather than from good works and sacraments alone.*)
 - Intellectual pursuit of God.
 - Evangelism is central.
 - Accurate Bible study and sound doctrine.
 - Pentecostalism / Charismaticism – To experience God’s presence through the Holy Spirit. (*Pentecostal – Christian believers that seek to be filled with the Holy Ghost in emulation of the disciples at Pentecost.*)
 - Experiential pursuit of God – believing for miracles, sign & wonders and operation of the Spiritual gifts.
 - Compassion, mercy – leaders in ministry to the poor and foreign missions in the 3rd world believing God for what would otherwise be impossible.
 - Vineyard believes you need it all but in balance and in order.
 - Because we are Bible believing evangelicals we are therefore Spirit-filled Charismatic Christian disciples.

1 Corinthians 14:39 Paul said

“So dear brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and don’t forbid speaking in tongues. (*Don’t forbid the use of the Spiritual gifts*) But be sure that everything is done properly and in order.”

John 20 – Holy Spirit for salvation

19That evening, on the first day of the week, the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. **20**As he spoke, he held out his hands for them to see, and he showed them his side. They were filled with joy when they saw their Lord! **21**He spoke to them again and said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." **22**Then he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you refuse to forgive them, they are unforgiven."

Acts 1 - The Promise of the Holy Spirit for ministry

1Dear Theophilus: In my first book I told you about everything Jesus began to do and teach **2**until the day

he ascended to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions from the Holy Spirit. **3**During the forty days after his crucifixion, he appeared to the apostles from time to time and proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. On these occasions he talked to them about the Kingdom of God. **4**In one of these meetings as he was eating a meal with them, he told them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you what he promised. Remember, I have told you about this before. **5**John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." **6**When the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, are you going to free Israel now and restore our kingdom?" **7**"The Father sets those dates," he replied, "and they are not for you to know. **8**But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere--in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 2 – The Holy Spirit empowers believers for ministry

1On the day of Pentecost, seven weeks after Jesus' resurrection, the believers were meeting together in one place. **2**Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm in the skies above them, and it filled the house where they were meeting. **3**Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. **4**And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

5Godly Jews from many nations were living in Jerusalem at that time. **6**When they heard this sound, they came running to see what it was all about, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers. **7**They were beside themselves with wonder. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, **8**and yet we hear them speaking the languages of the lands where we were born! **11b** And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" **12**They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other. **13**But others in the crowd were mocking. "They're drunk, that's all!" they said.

14 Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. **15**Some of you are saying these people are drunk. It isn't true! It's much too early for that. People don't get drunk by nine o'clock in the morning.

Prophecy of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament for evangelism.

16No, what you see this morning was predicted centuries ago by the prophet Joel:

17 In the last days, God said,

I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,

your young men will see visions,

and your old men will dream dreams.

18 In those days I will pour out my Spirit upon all my servants, men and women alike, and they will prophesy.

19 And I will cause wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below--

blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

20 The sun will be turned into darkness,
and the moon will turn bloodred,
before that great and glorious day of the Lord arrives.

21 And anyone who calls on the name of the Lord
will be saved.'

Acts 2 – The Holy Spirit empowers believers for ministry

36 So let it be clearly known by everyone in Israel that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified to be both Lord and Messiah!" 37 Peter's words convicted them deeply, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" 38 Peter replied, "Each of you must turn from your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 This promise is to you and to your children, and even to the Gentiles--all who have been called by the Lord our God." 40 Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this generation that has gone astray!"

41 Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church--about three thousand in all. 42 They joined with the other believers and devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, sharing in the Lord's Supper and in prayer.

43 A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. 44 And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything they had. 45 They sold their possessions and shared the proceeds with those in need. 46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity-- 47 all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved. (*Evangelism happened*)

Acts 3 – The lame beggar is healed – An example of power evangelism

4 Peter and John looked at him intently, and Peter said, "Look at us!" 5 The lame man looked at them eagerly, expecting a gift. 6 But Peter said, "I don't have any money for you. But I'll give you what I do have. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!"

Acts 4 - Holy Spirit for boldness to present the Gospel (Jesus had told them that when they were put on trial the Holy Spirit would tell them what to say.)

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Leaders and elders of our nation, 9 are we being questioned because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? 10 Let me clearly state to you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed in the name and power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth, the man you crucified, but whom God raised from the dead. 11 For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says,

`The stone that you builders rejected
has now become the cornerstone.'

12 There is salvation in no one else! There is no other name in all of heaven for people to call on to save them."

23As soon as they were freed, Peter and John found the other believers and told them what the leading priests and elders had said. 24Then all the believers were united as they lifted their voices in prayer: "O Sovereign Lord, Creator of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them-- 25you spoke long ago by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor King David, your servant, saying,

`Why did the nations rage?

Why did the people waste their time with futile plans?

26 The kings of the earth prepared for battle;
the rulers gathered together
against the Lord
and against his Messiah.'

27"That is what has happened here in this city! For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your holy servant, whom you anointed. 28In fact, everything they did occurred according to your eternal will and plan. 29And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give your servants great boldness in their preaching. 30Send your healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

31After this prayer, the building where they were meeting shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. And they preached God's message with boldness.

The refilling of Holy Spirit for ongoing effectiveness

32All the believers were of one heart and mind, and they felt that what they owned was not their own; they shared everything they had. 33And the apostles gave powerful witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great favor was upon them all. 34There was no poverty among them, because people who owned land or houses sold them 35and brought the money to the apostles to give to others in need.

Acts 8 [Spirit with, in and upon] – Baptism of the Spirit is a different experience

1 Saul was one of the official witnesses at the killing of Stephen. A great wave of persecution began that day, sweeping over the church in Jerusalem, and all the believers except the apostles fled into Judea and Samaria. 2(Some godly men came and buried Stephen with loud weeping.) 3Saul was going everywhere to devastate the church. He went from house to house, dragging out both men and women to throw them into jail. 4But the believers who had fled Jerusalem went everywhere preaching the Good News about Jesus. 5Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. 6Crowds listened intently to what he had to say because of the miracles he did. 7Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. 8So there was great joy in that city. 9A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, claiming to be someone great. 10The Samaritan people, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as "the Great One--the Power of God." 11He was very influential because of the magic he performed. 12But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized. 13Then Simon himself believed and was baptized. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the great miracles and signs Philip performed.

14When the apostles back in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God's message, they sent Peter and John there. 15As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new Christians to receive the

Holy Spirit. 16The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17Then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received the Holy Spirit.

18When Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given when the apostles placed their hands upon people's heads, he offered money to buy this power. **19**"Let me have this power, too," he exclaimed, "so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!" **20**But Peter replied, "May your money perish with you for thinking God's gift can be bought! **21**You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right before God. **22**Turn from your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, **23**for I can see that you are full of bitterness and held captive by sin." **24**"Pray to the Lord for me," Simon exclaimed, "that these terrible things won't happen to me!"