



Be Filled

Adapted from "50 Days for Fire" series by Wayne Murray

Dr. George Wood, in his book, "Living in the Spirit" tells a story:

A man who worked in a factory was known for foul language and telling off-color stories. Friday night after he'd get his paycheck, he would go down to the bar and spend most of his money. By the time he got home, he didn't have much for groceries or rent that week. One night, he went into a church service and was wonderfully saved and transformed.

When he went back to work, he was no longer swearing or telling off-color jokes and he was arriving home with his full paycheck. His coworkers were not happy with the changes in his life. They taunted him and ridiculed him. One day, a coworker asked him, "Do you believe Jesus turned water into wine?" He said, "Yes I do. I wasn't there when it happened. But in my house, he turned beer into furniture."

J. Edwin Orr, a professor of church history, described the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the Welsh revivals of the 19th century. He said that as people sought to be filled with the Spirit, they did all they could to confess their wrong doing and to make restitution. But it unexpectedly created serious problems for the shipyards along the coast of Wales. Over the years, workers had stolen all kinds of things, from wheelbarrows to hammers. However, as people sought to be right with God they started to return what they had taken, with the result that soon the shipyards of Wales were overwhelmed with returned property. There were such huge piles of returned tools that several of the shipyards put up signs that read, "if you have been led by God to return what you have stolen, please know that the management forgives you and wishes you to keep what you have taken."

The hope of this lesson is for you to open a dialogue as to why one should be filled with the Holy Spirit today.¹

¹ George O. Wood, *Living in the Spirit*, (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 2009).

COURAGE

C1: Read the following verse and answer the question.

Ephesians 5:18 (NLT) Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit...

- What can you glean from this verse regarding the Holy Spirit?

C2: Why do you believe Paul commands believers to be filled with the Spirit of God?

C3: The baptism in the Holy Spirit was promised by Jesus and fulfilled in the Book of Acts. Read the Book of Acts and highlight the five instances where people were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Look back at your five sections of Scripture.

- List the manifestations associated with each instance of Spirit baptism in Acts.
- What is the pattern you see?
- What do you think that means for you today?

STRENGTH

S1: Read the following verses and answer the question.

John 7:37–39 (NLT)

- What can you glean from these scriptures that point to the need of Spirit baptism?

S2: Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Acts 2:42 (NLT)

Romans 8:26 (NLT)

- From these verses, how does the Holy Spirit operate in the life of a believer?
- On a scale from 1-4 with 1 being not strong and 4 being strong, needs no improvement, write down how well your prayer life is. How can you improve your prayer life?

S3: Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Acts 2:46 (NLT)

1 Thessalonians 1:6 (NLT)

- From these verses, how does the Holy Spirit operate in the life of a believer?
- On a scale from 1-4 with 1 being not strong and 4 being strong, needs no improvement, write down how strong your joy is.

- How can you improve your joy?

S4: Read the following verses and answer the questions.

Acts 2:46–47 (NLT)

1 Corinthians 14:15 (NLT)

Ephesians 5:19 (NLT)

- From these verses, how does the Holy Spirit operate in the life of a believer?

- On a scale from 1-4 with 1 being not strong and 4 being strong, needs no improvement, write down how strong your personal worship life is. How can you improve your personal worship life?

ENDURANCE

E1: Read the following verse and answer the question.

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

- What can you glean from this verse regarding the Holy Spirit?

E2: Read the following verse and answer the questions.

Acts 4:31 (NLT)

- From these verses, what does the Holy Spirit give a believer?

- On a scale from 1-4 with 1 being not strong and 4 being strong, needs no improvement, write down how strong your witnessing to non-believers is? What can you do to improve your witness quotient?

E3: Read the following verse and answer the questions.

Mark 16:17 (NLT)

- From these verses, what does the Holy Spirit give a believer power over?

- On a scale from 1-4 with 1 being not strong and 4 being strong-needs no improvement, write down how strong you walk in the gifts of the Spirit? What can you do to improve the gifts of the Spirit operating in your life frequently?

E4: Read the following verses and answer the questions.

2 Timothy 3:1–2 (NLT)

Ephesians 5:1–11 (NLT)

- What five things can you glean from these verses that speak to the need of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer?

- On a scale from 1-4 with 1 being not strong and 4 being strong-needs no improvement, write down how well you live out these verses? What can you do to improve in this area?

E5: Read the following verse and answer the questions.

Ephesians 5:27 (NLT)

- From this verse, what does Paul tell the believer the type of church Jesus will come back for?

- What do you believe would be needed to be ready for the return of Jesus?