

UNLEASHED!

DAY 5— Repent and be Saturated with the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4, 5; 2:1–4; 2:37–39; 3:19

Time Alone with God

Prayer

Explore the Word

1. Read Acts 1:4, 5. What did Jesus promise His disciples if they would wait for it?
2. Read Luke 11:11–13. How much does God want you to have the Holy Spirit?

Insights from Ellen White:

So mightily can God work when men give themselves up to the control of His Spirit.

The promise of the Holy Spirit is not limited to any age or to any race. Christ declared that the divine influence of His Spirit was to be with His followers unto the end. From the Day of Pentecost to the present time, the Comforter has been sent to all who have yielded themselves fully to the Lord and to His service. To all who have accepted Christ as a personal Saviour, the Holy Spirit has come as a counselor, sanctifier, guide, and witness. The more closely believers have walked with God, the more clearly and powerfully have they testified of their Redeemer's love and of His saving grace. The men and women who through the long centuries of persecution and trial enjoyed a large measure of the presence of the Spirit in their lives, have stood as signs and wonders in the world. Before angels and men they have revealed the transforming power of redeeming love. (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 49)

Prayer Focus

Pray for God to give you the gift of the Holy Spirit beyond what you have ever received.

Family/Friend Circle

Connect Activity

Ask each person to describe a memorable gift they received from a family member or friend and why it was special to them. What do you think God wants to give you?

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Explore the Word

Read Luke 11:13 and Matthew 7:7, 8. What does Jesus invite us to do?

Insights from Ellen White:

The lapse of time has wrought no change in Christ's parting promise to send the Holy Spirit as His representative. It is not because of any restriction on the part of God that the riches of His grace do not flow earthward to men. If the fulfillment of the promise is not seen as it might be, it is because the promise is not appreciated as it should be. If all were willing, all would be filled with the Spirit. Wherever the need of the Holy Spirit is a matter little thought of, there is seen spiritual drought, spiritual darkness, spiritual declension and death. Whenever minor matters occupy the attention, the divine power which is necessary for the growth and prosperity of the church, and which would bring all other blessings in its train, is lacking, though offered in infinite plenitude. (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 50)

Prayer Focus

Pray together for God to send the Gift of the Holy Spirit to each family member and friend in your circle.

Church Family

Welcome

Worship in Prayer

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Sit with your small groups. Our prayer team will invite your small group to pray through the Word of God together. After praying for a few minutes, you will hear the prayer team begin to sing one stanza of a song. When you do, please transition from prayer to song.

Thanks:

1. (SMALL GROUPS) Read James 1:17. Give God prayers of thanksgiving for being the Giver of all good gifts. Thank God for the gifts that fill your heart with gratitude!
2. (EVERYONE) Sing a song of thanksgiving.

Repent:

1. (SMALL GROUPS) Read James 1:21. Ask God to give you the humility and power to turn from all wickedness.
2. (EVERYONE) Sing a song of repentance.

Ask:

1. (SMALL GROUPS) Read Luke 11:13 and James 1:22. Ask God to pour out His Spirit on His Word and on our lives. Ask for a heart of obedience to follow Him.
2. (EVERYONE) Sing a song of the Holy Spirit.

Testify

(SMALL GROUPS)

Form groups of two or three within your small groups. Ask and answer: "What did God help you do with yesterday's 24-Hour Challenge?"

(Yesterday's 24-Hour Challenge: Ask God which person in your life most needs your love, kindness, respect, or forgiveness. Follow the Holy Spirit's lead in reaching out to that person. Read Acts 1:4, 5 in preparation for tomorrow.)

Connect Activity

LEADER TO EVERYONE: In your small groups, have each person briefly describe a time that they saw something become completely "saturated" by something else. Today we will pray to become completely saturated by the Holy Spirit.

Worship in Word

(SMALL GROUPS)

1. Read Acts 1:4, 5. What word does Jesus use to promise the coming of the Holy Spirit?
2. Read Acts 2:1–4. What words are used in this passage to describe the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost?
3. Read Acts 2:37–39. What is essential in order to have the fullness of the Holy Spirit?

Insights from Ellen White:

Since this is the means by which we are to receive power, why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it? The Lord is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to those who serve Him than parents are to give good gifts to their children. For the daily baptism of the Spirit every worker should offer his petition to God. Companies of Christian workers should gather to ask for special help, for heavenly wisdom, that they may know how to plan and execute wisely. Especially should they pray that God will baptize His chosen ambassadors in mission fields with a rich measure of His Spirit. The presence of the Spirit with God's workers will give the proclamation of truth a power that not all the honor or glory of the world could give. (*The Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 50, 51)

It is not a conclusive evidence that a man is a Christian because he manifests spiritual ecstasy under extraordinary circumstances. Holiness is not rapture: it is an entire surrender of the will to God; it is living by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it is doing the will of our heavenly Father; it is trusting God in trial, in darkness as well as in the light; it is walking by faith and not by sight; it is relying on God with unquestioning confidence, and resting in His love. (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 51)

Prayer Focus

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Pray in twos or threes for the Holy Spirit to empower us to repent fully of anything that compromises our connection to God.

Appeal

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Who here tonight longs to be completely saturated by the Holy Spirit? I invite you to come and join me as we humble ourselves and pray for the full baptism of the Holy Spirit.

24-Hour Challenge

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Pray daily to receive the fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. If possible, go to your knees today and cry out to God for this precious Gift! Repent of anything that the Holy Spirit convicts you to leave behind. Read Acts 2:14 and 4:1–31 in preparation for tomorrow.