



# **Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

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Derek Prince, a well known teacher of Scripture for many years, said that we should not seek baptism in the Holy Spirit unless we are really serious with God, because “*it is not a picnic*”.

The baptism is the Holy Spirit being poured upon us and it is receiving the Holy Spirit into us, this is what Paul writes in **1 Corinthians 12:13**

*“For we are all baptised by one Spirit into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free and we were all given the one Spirit to drink”*

This links in with what Jesus said in **John 7:37-39**

*“On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, ‘If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him’. By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified”.*

**The first question we need to ask is: “How thirsty am I for Jesus? Am I as thirsty for His Holy Spirit as I would be for a glass of water in a hot land?”**

**If I am really thirsty, longing for more of Jesus to flow in and out of me then I want to drink, be filled and overflow, become rivers of living water, a channel for others.**

**The next question that could be asked is, “How can I be open to the Holy Spirit?”**

According to Scripture here are the stages which I can follow:

**Acts 2 part of verse 38:** “*Repent.....*”

I need to submit myself completely to God without reservation, holding nothing in my mind, heart, soul and spirit from Him and submit to His requirements of my life and lifestyle.

**Luke 11:9-13** “*I need to ask God*”.

**John 7:37-39** “*I need to be thirsty*”.

When you live in a hot and sticky climate you may not be desperate for something to eat but you’ll probably be gasping for water. You could be feeling weak and have a headache but as soon as you take a long drink of water the headache vanishes, and you feel strong again. When you are really thirsty you don’t discuss, analyse and debate your need for water.... You go straight to where there is water and you drink.

**John 1:35, Matt 2:11** “*I need to come to Jesus*”.

He is the Baptiser in the Holy Spirit

**1 Cor 12:13, Isaiah 55:1, Ps 42:1-2** “*I need to drink*”.

To drink means to receive

**1 Cor 6:19, Rom 6:13** *“I need to offer up, dedicate, commit my physical body to God for His service, together with my mind and my tongue”.*

**James 3:8** says my tongue needs to be under God’s control, and we are told in Matthew 12:34 that if there is an overflow of God in my heart my mouth will speak, praise, sing, prophesy, speak in tongues, use encouraging words.

We could pray along these lines and perhaps you would like to pray the following words....

*‘Lord Jesus, I am thirsty for the fullness of Your Holy Spirit. I ask You to forgive me for trying to do things in my own strength, and for not realising that there needs to be more of You and less of me in my life. I present my body to You as a temple for your Holy Spirit. And I commit my mind, and all my thinking, my tongue and all its speech to Your Holy Spirit. Fill me I pray, pour out Your Holy Spirit up - on me, let Your Holy Spirit overflow from me and let me come to You constantly to drink and to be filled. I receive Your Holy Spirit and I thank You for filling me’.*

Amen

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