

WONDERS

Title: **THE PROMISED POWER IN MAKING DISCIPLES**

Date: **June 9, 2024**

Leader's Tips:

- S** - Sensitivity with others. No one should feel left out.
- P** - Participation is encouraged during discussion.
- A** - Acknowledge guests. Make them feel welcome.
- C** - Confidentiality is key. What is shared stays in the group.
- E** - Encourage the group to pray for one another.

WORSHIP: (15 mins)

Venue Option 1: Home gatherings

Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.

Venue Option 2: Public place (school, café, park, etc.) or Via Online, ask, "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past week?"

WELCOME:(15 mins): Remember I.W.C.

I - Introduce yourself.

W - Welcome guests/first-time visitors.

C - Cheer up (someone within the group).

Memory Verse for the week: Acts 1:8

Ice-breaker: One day, a young girl was heard praying, "God please give me a barbie doll." Her mom asked, "why are you praying so loudly? God isn't hard of hearing." The girl replied, "yes but grandma is."

WORD (30–45 mins) - Text: Acts 1:8

Six things we need to know about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit:

1. It is the promise of the Father to those who will believe in Christ – Luke 24:46-49 NLT

2. This experience is separate from and follows after the born again experience.

"Born again" means to be alive in Christ and indwelt by the Spirit. The Greek word "baptizo" means to be *submerged or immersed*. To be baptized in the Spirit is to be immersed in the Holy Spirit. Paul encouraged believers to be continually filled with the Spirit after the new birth. (Read Ephesians 5:18)

Illustration: Fill a glass with water to represent being indwelt by the Spirit, then submerging the glass in a pitcher of water to represent being baptized or immersed in the Spirit.

3. Jesus is the Baptizer – Read Matthew 3:11NLT –

People/we baptize in water but Jesus is the baptizer in the Holy Spirit. We simply pray and expect in faith to receive it from the Lord Jesus Christ. If someone prays for others to be baptized, he should expect Jesus to do the baptizing.

4. The purpose of baptism in the Holy Spirit is to receive supernatural enablement to be a witness for Christ – Read Acts.1:8.

The Greek word for power is "dunamis," where we got the word dynamite. We need "explosive power"—something we cannot generate on our own to be a witness for Christ and make disciples.

The first-century Christians received the baptism of the Holy Spirit as an extraordinary and explosive event. They spoke in tongues, which made them bold and courageous followers and witnesses for Christ.

5. How was it received by the early church?

a. While in prayer – Acts 1:14, 2:1-4 NLT

b. While listening to the preaching of God's word – Acts 10:44-46 NLT

c. By the laying of hands by Spirit-filled believers – Acts 19:1-6 NLT

Note: Receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit is not limited to these three methods we mentioned.

A sister in our church who recently received it by simply laying her hands on herself.

Additionally, the scriptures show that the baptism in the Holy Spirit was administered in two different ways:

First, directly from heaven

Second, through the laying on of hands.

6. Speaking in tongues is the sign of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit –

Speaking in tongues is the initial sign indicating that the believer is baptized in the Holy Spirit, empowering us to be effective witnesses for Christ.

Note: Please refer to Nurturing Lesson 4 - Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Q: Have you experienced being baptized in the Holy Spirit?

Note: If the reply is "not yet," pray for the person/s. Call spirit-filled group members to lay hands on them to receive.

Conclusion: As Jesus' return draws near, He continues to baptize believers in the Holy Spirit. This experience is available to everyone, regardless of gender, age, status, or ethnicity.

Q: What is your take-away from the discussion? Partner with someone in prayer.

WORK: The Challenge (15 mins.)

P- Pray for one another. Ask "what can I pray for you?" (7mins.)

R- Remind to invite a friend on the next gathering.

A- Apply the message during the week.

Y- Yearn to share your faith with someone during the week.