

The Holy Spirit Is In Us, Is With Us, Works Through Us, and

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us

Session 4

Let's Review:

The Azuza Street Revival was driven by:

- An unquenchable hunger for God—to know Him and to hear His voice.
- A genuine love for others.
- An unwavering commitment to God's Word.
- An understanding that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is not just for personal blessing—Its central purpose is for **empowerment**.
 - ✓ The baptism is for speaking with clarity as a witness for Christ.
 - ✓ The baptism is not just an experience to be flaunted, but one
 to be used for the glory of God.

It is true, we can short-circuit the Holy Spirit's power to work through our lives.

We short-circuit His power by our:

- Unforgiveness
- *Lack of submission*
- *Unloving attitude and selfishness*
- Sinful living.

The Holy Spirit exalts Jesus:

John 16:14, "He (the Holy Spirit) will glorify me." Red letter (Jesus speaking).

• It has always been the mission of the Holy Spirit to exalt Jesus and make us excited about His work.

• The Holy Spirit was sent by God to make Christ real to people and to show us who He really is.

We should be doing the same when the Holy Spirit is working through us:

- Draw people's attention to Jesus
- Inviting them to love Him,
- Trust Him, and
- Obey Him.

Witnessing for Jesus is a responsibility of every Christian. When you have been baptized in the Spirit it is the common thing to be a witness for Him.

What do you feel are the significant factors holding the Christian back from being a witness for Christ?

As Christians, we are to <u>equip</u> ourselves to make sure we are ready to be a witness for Jesus. Equipping ourselves is a choice.

Peter's baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2) empowered him to be bold, willing to be persecuted and abused for Christ, and open to the Holy Spirit's help in being an effective witness for His Lord.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit should empower us for an effective witness for Christ Jesus.

The Holy Spirit not only exalts Jesus, but He:

Convicts Us.

John 16:8: "And when He comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment."

The Holy Spirit convicts us in three areas:

- 1. **The Sin of Unbelief**—He gives us an awakened sense of sin, particularly the sin of unbelief in Jesus.
- 2. **The Righteousness of Jesus**—The Holy Spirit reminds that it is Christ alone who forgives our sins and provides righteousness for us.
- 3. **Satan Is Defeated**—The judgment or defeat has already been pronounced on Satan.

Conviction means, "to convince someone of truth; to reprove; to accuse, refute, or cross-examine a witness."

When we are convicted, we feel:

- **The loathsomeness of sin**, as Isaiah did when he said, "Woe is me, for I am a sinful man." Isaiah 6:50
- **An utter dreadfulness of sin,** such as Joseph did when tempted by Potiphar's wife. "How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God" (Genesis 39:9).

• **How sin dishonors God,** as David did when he said, "Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done when is evil in your sight" (Psalm 51:4).

Let's Test Ourselves:

- Do we just think sins that are committed by others against us have consequences or do you realize that sins by the one staring back in the mirror are sins that need to be forgiven?
- Do we loathe sin...hate it with a passion?
- Do we immediately ask for forgiveness when we sin?
- Do we realize that we grieve the Holy Spirit when we sin?

We cannot be **empowered** by the Holy Spirit when we are grieving Him with the sins of our past and present?

Isaiah 66:2b, "... "These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word."

<u>Psalm 25:9</u>, "He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way."

There is nothing like the Salvation Jesus provided for us! When we take the next step of being baptized in the Holy Spirit: It emboldens us as we humble ourselves for God's work.

HUMILITY = POWER AND BOLDNESS

That is the formula for being a dynamite of a witness for Jesus Christ!