

**IWC DISCIPLESHIP CLASS  
(LILONGWE)**

**LESSON: The Baptism in the Holy Spirit**



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**Objective:**

To help believers understand the baptism in the Holy Spirit, its purpose, biblical foundation, and how to receive it.

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## **I. Understanding the Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

### **A. Definition**

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a distinct and empowering experience given to believers, following salvation, to equip them for witnessing, ministry and Christian living.

- **Acts 1:8** – "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
- **Matthew 3:11** – John the Baptist said, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

### **B. The Difference Between Salvation and Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

- When a person accepts Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in them (**John 20:22**).
  - The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a subsequent experience that empowers the believer (**Acts 8:14-17**).
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## **II. The Purpose of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

### **1. Empowerment for Witnessing and Ministry**

- **Acts 1:8** – The Holy Spirit gives believers the power to be effective witnesses.

## 2. **Spiritual Boldness and Confidence**

- **Acts 4:31** – "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness."

## 3. **Spiritual Gifts and Ministry Function**

- **1 Corinthians 12:7-11** – The Holy Spirit gives various gifts for the edification of the church.

## 4. **Empowerment for christian living (Spirit-left life)**

5. **Acts 1:8** – Empowerment for witnessing and bold living.

6. **Romans 8:13-14**– The Holy Spirit empowers believers to overcome sin and live righteously.

7. **Galatians 5:16**– The Spirit enables victorious Christian living.

8. **Ephesians 3:16**– The Spirit strengthens us from within to live for Christ.

9. **2 Timothy 1:7**– The Holy Spirit gives courage, love, and self-discipline

10. **John 14:26**– The Spirit empowers believers with wisdom, teaching, and guidance.

11. **Corinthians 2:4-5**– The Spirit empowers both ministry and spiritual conviction.

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## III. **Biblical Examples of Holy Spirit Baptism**

### 1. **The Disciples at Pentecost**

- **Acts 2:1-4** – The Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues.

### 2. **The Samaritans**

- **Acts 8:14-17** – They believed in Christ and later received the Holy Spirit.

### 3. **Cornelius and His Household**

- **Acts 10:44-46** – The Holy Spirit fell on Gentiles as they listened to Peter.

### 4. **The Ephesian Disciples**

- **Acts 19:1-6** – They received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues.

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## IV. **The Initial Evidence: Speaking in Tongues**

### A. **Speaking in Tongues as a Sign**

- **Acts 2:4** – "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."
- **Acts 10:46** – "For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God."
- **Acts 19:6** – "And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied."

## B. The Purpose of Speaking in Tongues

- A sign of Holy Spirit baptism (**Mark 16:17**).
  - A way to edify oneself (**1 Corinthians 14:4**).
  - A spiritual prayer language (**Romans 8:26**).
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## V. How to Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

1. **Have Faith in Jesus Christ**
    - **John 7:37-39** – Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to those who believe.
  2. **Desire and Ask for the Holy Spirit**
    - **Luke 11:13** – "How much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"
  3. **Worship and Yield to the Holy Spirit**
    - **Acts 10:44** – Cornelius and his household received while listening to the Word.
  4. **Laying on of Hands (Optional but Biblical)**
    - **Acts 19:6** – "Paul laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues."
  5. **Expect to Speak in Tongues**
    - **Acts 2:4** – They were filled and began to speak.
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## VI. Conclusion and Application

- **Encourage believers** to seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- **Provide an opportunity** for prayer and receiving.
- **Remind them** that this experience is for all believers today (**Acts 2:39**).