

How You Can Receive Power for the Great Commission

Believer, you are tasked with the incredible ministry of reconciliation known as the Great Commission.

Jesus tells us to make disciples of all nations, heal the sick, raise the dead and cast out demons, but first, we are told to wait until we are endued with power from on high through the gift of the Father, the Holy Spirit. These are Jesus' last words to His disciples before He returned to heaven and must be heeded still today.

Freely we receive everything from God, including the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we can freely give to those in need today.

Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen. Luke 24:46-53 NKJV

Pursue the Gift of the Father

The gift of the Father, the Holy Spirit poured out on Pentecost, is still moving among the earth today. Those who wish to be Jesus' witnesses to the ends of the earth must be

endowed with the power to do the work of the ministry. The gift of the Father is not given to make us famous but to empower us to meet the needs of a hurting world.

We must pursue the power of God with great humility, knowing that we could never earn such a gift and that He is freely given because of the finished work of another, Jesus. Your heavenly Father is pleased with the work of the Son, and He sent the Holy Spirit so that we might continue the ministry of reconciliation.

And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 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." Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight" (Acts 1:4-9 NKJV).

Divine Invitation for More

The Holy Spirit of God longs to be with us more than we long to be with Him. This was the design of God before the beginning of time. The Godhead works in perfect unity with man, walking, talking, and living together. History is wrought with men and women who were not satisfied with a religious Christian experience, they cried out for more, and perhaps your frustration is a divine invitation for more.

These things are not hidden from you but concealed like

treasure to draw you into much more than your heart or mind can imagine. The Bible declares that no eye has seen and no ear has heard the things God has planned for those who love Him.

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 1 Cor.2:9 NKJV

Your Father Loves to Give

Your heavenly Father is the greatest giver of all time. The Father so loved the world that He gave the Son, and now He has given the Spirit to continue drawing those estranged home. Beloved, if you have not been endowed with power from on high, I would love to pray for you to impart the Spirit today. In Acts 19, the apostle Paul asks the Ephesian believers if they had received the Holy Spirit when they believed.

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?"

So they said, "Into John's baptism."

 *Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."*

When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied" (Acts 19:1-6 NKJV).

For more on receiving the Holy Spirit baptism and a prayer of impartation, listen to this encouraging podcast episode with the pastor of Celebration Church and author of *Your Divine Invitation: Access the Holy Spirit to Complete Your Assignment*, Frankie Mazzapica, will inspire you to pursue power from on high, the gift of the Father, the Holy Spirit.

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