CHARIS YOUTH

Series: Why We Believe

Lesson 5: The Present-Day Ministry of the Holy Spirit

About This Lesson

Young people need to recognize the Holy Spirit as a superpower within them, helping them fulfill God's will for their lives. Instead of feeling embarrassed about the Holy Spirit and His gifts, create a culture where praying in tongues and using the gifts of the Holy Spirit are seen as normal during your time together in the youth group. If the youth embrace the Holy Spirit power that comes from baptism in the Holy Spirit, just imagine the strength they will gain to say "no" to peer pressure and "yes" to sharing Jesus with their friends.

Key Takeaway: The Holy Spirit comes at salvation, but the baptism of the Holy Spirit ignites that power source already within you.

Key Verse: 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.

Teaching Outline:

I. BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A SEPARATE EXPERIENCE FROM SALVATION & WATER BAPTISM

Acts 1:4–5 and 8 *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; [5] for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now"… [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."*

A. There are three baptisms mentioned in the Bible.

Hebrews 6:1–3 *Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection [maturity], not laying again the foundation of*

repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, [2]of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgement. [3] And this we will do if God permits.

1. SALVATION: Baptism into the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:13 *For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body¬– whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free– and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.*

   a. Baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit.
   b. This baptism deals with repentance and faith.
   c. Salvation comes from this baptism. This is the only thing needed to be saved and spend eternity with Jesus. Example: The thief on the cross wasn't water baptized, and Jesus told him that today you will be with me in paradise.

2. WATER BAPTISM

Acts 2:38 *Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission [forgiveness] of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

   a. Baptized by another believer into water.
   b. Baptism of repentance and identification with Christ. Going into the water identifies with Christ in His death and burial. Coming up out of the water identifies with Jesus' resurrection. We must become dead to sin so we can live to God.

3. BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Matthew 3:11 *I [John the Baptist] indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

   a. Baptized in the Holy Spirit by Jesus Christ.
   b. Empowers us to be better witnesses.
   c. Speaking in tongues is a result of being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

II. IS THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOU WHEN YOU ARE SAVED?

A. Yes! At salvation, every believer is born again by the Holy Spirit, and that same Spirit dwells in them.

B. At salvation, God seals you with His Spirit so that you know that you are His. His Spirit lives and dwells in you. You belong to your heavenly Father! This seal represents ownership.

Ephesians 1:13b *…having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.*

III. CAN YOU BE SAVED AND NOT HAVE RECEIVED THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. Yes, there are many believers today that haven't received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. There were also believers in scripture that followed Jesus yet didn't know about the baptism in the Holy Spirit and speaking/praying in tongues.

Acts 19:1–6 *And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples* [2]*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.."…* [5] *When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.* [6] *And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

B. In Acts 8:5–17 we read that in Samaria, Philip the evangelist, led them to salvation. Then, Peter and John led them to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit!

C. Illustration. Being saved is like drinking water. Being baptized in the Holy Spirit is like being thrown in the ocean—two different experiences with water! One is necessary (salvation), and the other brings power into your life (baptism of the Holy Spirit).

D. Your relationship with the Holy Spirit began when you were first saved. The Holy Spirit was working on your heart, convincing you that you need to live for Jesus! The Holy Spirit still wants a relationship with you today!

E. Invite the young people to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Bottom Line:
The baptism of the Holy Spirit adds power to my Christian life.

Small Group Time:

1. GOD ONLY HAS GOOD THINGS TO GIVE!

James 1:17 *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*
We receive gifts from God: the gift of salvation (Ephesians 2:8), the gift of righteousness (Romans 5:17), the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23), and the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4).

- When and where have you received the gift of the Holy Spirit? If you haven't, what is keeping you from receiving this gift?
- How do you feel when someone else prays or speaks in tongues?

2. THE HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS GIFTS ALSO!

- What are the nine gifts of the Spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12:7-11? (word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healings, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, and interpretation of tongues.) Discuss any recent example of these gifts at work in your church.
- Have you received and used any of these gifts? Share your own experiences.
- The Holy Spirit gives these gifts to each one as He wills. If you could ask for one gift to have this week, what gift would like the Holy Spirit to give you? Why?

Declaration:

"I want all that God offers me. I want the power of the Holy Spirit unleashed in my life."

Youth Weekly Journal:

Handout, Email, or Download

- **Question:** What would you tell someone who asked you to explain to them the baptism of the Holy Spirit?
- **Pray:** Ask the Holy Spirit to unleash His power in your life as you seek to honor God and use the gifts of the Spirit.
- **Read:** Before reading the Bible, pray in tongues and ask the Holy Spirit to speak and guide them to understand what God is saying to you. Turn to the passages that the Holy Spirit is guiding you to read.

- **Live It:** Pray in tongues before school each day. Watch for situations that come up where you miraculously know the answer, know what to do, or how to handle it. Look for supernatural connections and conversations that you are led to. Share your testimony next week of how the Holy Spirit worked in you and through you.
- **Create:** The symbol of the Holy Spirit is a dove. Create a dove image or something that encourages you to ask the Holy Spirit for opportunities to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit this week at home, school, and around town.

EXTENDING THE LESSON

Icebreaker Question: If you could have any superpower, what would it be, and why?

Opening Activity Suggestion: Use an object lesson about power sources and why someone would want a power source. Another option is to show pictures of power sources or have groups list as many sources of power as they can think of and then read their lists. If another team has that power source listed, each team with that power source has to cross it out. Teams score a point for each unique answer.

Opening Affirmation: "Today, I will be taught the Word of God. My mind is alert, my heart is receptive, and I will never be the same. I am about to receive the incorruptible, indestructible, ever-living seed of the Word of God. I will never be the same—never, never, never. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Giving Time: 2 Corinthians 8:9 *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.*

Did you realize how generous Jesus is? He was rich in heaven, but loved us and gave up everything and became poor for us. Jesus took our poverty, so we can be rich through Him. God never takes away from us; He always adds to us!

NOTE: Check with your pastor for any booklets or tips to share with the youth who choose to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. If the young people are not familiar with hearing people pray or speak in tongues, use Google Translate to record a few different languages, saying, "One of the gifts God gave is the Holy Spirit to live in us." Play these to show that we don't understand all of the known other languages, but our prayer language is a heavenly language for God, not us.

BEYOND –
ADDITIONAL APPLICATION FOR CHURCH OR HOME

Challenge: Look online for information and biographies about spirit-filled believers, such as John Wesley, Smith Wigglesworth, Kenneth Copeland, and Andrew Wommack. Invite people from your church to share their experiences of being led by the Holy Spirit.

Biblical Worldview: The world admires and looks up to powerful people. When we have a biblical worldview, we know the real power source is the Holy Spirit at work in us and through us. The Holy Spirit brings power, but He was also given to us as a helper, comforter, and guide. Encourage the young people to allow the Holy Spirit to help, comfort, and guide them as a way to let their friends and family know that they can have the same power source in their lives when they choose to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Outreach/Missions: Some missionaries report that when people receive salvation and the baptism of the Holy Spirit at the same time, they seem to grow faster in their love and knowledge of spiritual things. Pray for your church's missionaries to see outpourings of the Holy Spirit on the people and for the new converts to receive and use the gifts of the Spirit.