

TAMRYN KLINTWORTH  
FOREWORD BY REINHARD BONNKE

# SPIRIT *of* FIRE

RECEIVING HIS POWER  
PURSUING HIS PURPOSE



ACTION EDITION



**SPIRIT OF FIRE Action Edition**  
**RECEIVING HIS POWER, PURSUING HIS PURPOSE**

Published in 2023 by In His Name Ministries NPC  
PO Box 20017  
Big Bay 7448  
South Africa

Reg. no. 2007/019368/08

Action edition 2023

Text © Tamryn Klintworth 2023

Scripture quotations marked NKJV are taken from the New King James Version®, copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Scripture quotations marked ESV are taken from the *Holy Bible*, English Standard Version. ESV® Permanent Text Edition® (2016), copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Scripture quotations marked NLT are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Scripture quotations marked NASB are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New American Standard Bible, copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Scripture quotations marked CSB are taken from the *Holy Bible*, Christian Standard Bible, copyright © 2017 by Holman Bible Publishers.

Used by permission. All rights reserved.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the Publisher.

ISBN 978-0-6397-8022-1 (Print)  
ISBN 978-0-6397-8023-8 (ePUB)

# FOREWORD

*So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts."*

– Zechariah 4:6, NKJV

**E**vangelist Tamryn Klintworth is truly an anointed woman of God. She is consumed by a burning desire to see the lost world saved in the arms of Jesus. This of course is only possible “by My Spirit, says the Lord”, and this book reflects the fire of the Holy Spirit from every page. It is not just knowledge but temperature, as fire is always hot. Tamryn is filled with this fire, the kind that causes all windows to fog up when she enters a room. I highly recommend *Spirit of Fire*.

– Evangelist Reinhard Bonnke



# CONTENTS

Dedication.....	1
Introduction.....	3
<i>Chapter 1</i> His Need of You.....	9
<i>Chapter 2</i> God Wants to Use You.....	31
<i>Chapter 3</i> The Holy Spirit Baptism.....	49
<i>Chapter 4</i> Working with the Holy Spirit.....	73
<i>Chapter 5</i> Spirit of Action.....	99
<i>Chapter 6</i> Squashing Misconceptions.....	127
<i>Chapter 7</i> The Anointing.....	141
<i>Chapter 8</i> Understanding the Gifts.....	159
<i>Chapter 9</i> Combatting Fear.....	171
<i>Chapter 10</i> What if My Words Are Foolish?.....	181
<i>Chapter 11</i> Reckless Faith.....	193
<i>Chapter 12</i> Handling Hindrances.....	203
<i>Chapter 13</i> Sharing the Gospel Message.....	227
<i>Chapter 14</i> Pointers for Witnessing.....	241



# DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to my mother, who taught me to love Jesus; to my father, who inspired me to use my talents for His glory; to my big sister, who builds His Kingdom relentlessly; and to my husband, without whom I could not do what I do.



# INTRODUCTION

*When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

– Acts 2:1–4, NKJV

**I**t was our Jesus who spoke the words “without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5, NKJV). This book is founded upon such a statement, every chapter focusing either on the baptism of the Holy Spirit or what the believer is able to achieve once they have been filled from on High.

Without the Spirit of God, we are no threat to the kingdom of darkness. With Him, however, we are battering rams against the gates of hell, regardless of age,

race, gender, experience or education. There are many believers who do not understand how important it is to be filled with the Holy Spirit and therefore are not. There are many who, although they may be filled with the Spirit, do not understand the gravity thereof. Not understanding and not cooperating with Him leaves them almost as ineffective as those not filled at all.

---

*Without the Spirit of God, we are no threat to the kingdom of darkness. With Him, however, we are battering rams against the gates of hell, regardless of age, race, gender, experience or education.*

---

The chapters that follow consist of a genuine attempt to iron out these misunderstandings, leaving you not only fire-filled but also fully aware of how to labor with your God to dramatically impact your world for Jesus.

When the Holy Spirit filled the first disciples, He resembled flames of fire settling upon the head of each follower. On this occasion, God chose a fearsome natural element to represent His Spirit. Fire is dangerous. It is ravenous and relentless. If a blaze grows too large and too ferocious, no human intervention can get it under control. It is an element that will continue to burn until all the fuel within its reach has been utterly consumed. This is the picture our God would have us form in our minds when we think of the Holy Spirit. You see, dear friend, if

we allow Him to flow through us, He will consume sin, sickness and any oppression that might hold people in bondage. He will set the captives free, left, right and center. As a fire is relentless in its task of consuming, so will He relentlessly use us if we but allow Him to do so. He is ever-ready and ever-eager to drive the children of God onwards, supplying the zeal and the power. We only need to cooperate with Him!

I see this time and time again when we go on our crusades. From the moment we start preaching the Gospel, it is as if heaven has struck a match in the crowd. A fire begins to burn and spread. It is not a natural fire, not any mere spiritual fire, but the Fire of fires: God Himself.

---

*Our heavenly Father desperately  
needs you to work with Him.*

---

That fire is nothing less than the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Fire. Hearts become convinced that Jesus is Lord. Eager voices call on His matchless Name. Demons scream. The lame walk. Blind eyes see. The chains of witchcraft shatter and addictions disintegrate in His wake. These miracles should not only happen during outreaches, crusades, or in church but on the streets and in the workplace as well.

Our heavenly Father desperately needs you to work with Him. You are part of His plan to spread the glorious good news of salvation. He not only needs you, but also

desires to move through you. He is eager for you to share in the joy that floods His heart when a soul is saved or a bondage is broken. He is eager for your earthly life to have an eternal impact. Wherever you may be, the works of Satan can be devoured and eternal life left in its stead.

## WELCOME TO THE ACTION EDITION

This edition of *Spirit of Fire* is all about action. Reading a book is one thing. Applying what you read is something else. I have created this Action Edition to help you put into practice what you learn, as you progress through its pages. It is the type of book that has action at its centre. After all, the Great Commission is a call to action—and this book is about fulfilling the Great Commission!

---

*He is eager for your earthly life to have an eternal impact. Wherever you may be, the works of Satan can be devoured and eternal life left in its stead.*

---

At the end of every chapter, I have listed Discussion Points, Action Steps and Declarations. These will assist to engrave what each chapter teaches into your heart and mind and—very importantly—get you going for Jesus!

The **DISCUSSION POINTS** consist of quotes pulled from each chapter, together with questions prompted by those quotes. These points should ideally be discussed in a group of believers, whether that group consists of two or many. Perhaps you and a friend could read the book at the same time, going through the Discussion Points together at the end of each chapter. Perhaps your home, small or cell group can read a chapter a week and discuss the points whenever you meet. The points are there to get the conversation going. The important thing is that you speak about what you have learned, seeking to understand and absorb what has been communicated.

The **ACTION STEPS** were created to help you put into practice what each chapter teaches and also, deepen your intimacy with the Lord. I urge you to take them very seriously. As James wrote, “But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?” (James 2:20, NKJV). These steps will help add works to your faith. Speak about your experiences when completing the steps with your fellow believers before moving on to the next chapter.

---

*The important thing is that you speak about what you have learned, seeking to understand and absorb what has been communicated.*

---

The **DECLARATIONS** are there for you to start confessing what the Lord says about you and who He has created you to be—and needs you to be! I list several of these at the end of each chapter. Take one or two of your favorites and speak them over yourself with intent, before moving on to the next chapter. Keep a list of these favorites and revise them regularly.

Now, let's get started.

## Chapter 1

---

# HIS NEED OF YOU

In Colossians 1:24 (NKJV), the apostle Paul stated the following:

*I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church.*

One has to wonder what Paul meant by something “lacking in the afflictions of Christ”. How indeed could the total sacrifice of the perfect Lamb of God fall short in any way? Surely His offering was entirely sufficient, securing the promise of redemption for all mankind. If so, what was lacking? Quite simply, this: the communication of what His sufferings achieved.

In short, while our Lord did remain on earth for several days before ascending to heaven, the main task of spreading the good news of salvation was left to His followers. This assignment has been passed on from generation to

generation, and rests at present in your hands and mine. If we do not proclaim the Gospel, our Lord bled and died for nothing. How desperately He needs us, and how much He must trust us to allocate this duty into our keeping!

---

*If we do not proclaim the Gospel,  
our Lord bled and died for nothing.*

---

If we fail, the salvation plan fails. People do not go to hell because Jesus did not die for them. He died for all of us. Rather, people go to hell because they have not accepted His sacrifice. And how will they accept it if they do not know about it? As believers, we should constantly be filling up in the flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ. With our mouths, we should be sharing the wonders of His love. With our hands, we should be praying for healing and deliverance. Our Jesus saves, our Jesus sets the captives free—and we should not keep silent! You may think that evangelism is the work of evangelists. Surely, it is they who must get the job done? Well, yes and no. While it is indeed the work of evangelists, it is not solely their task. In Ephesians 4:11–12 (NASB), we read the following:

*And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets,  
and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and  
teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of  
service, to the building up of the body of Christ.*

The evangelist has a twofold responsibility: first, to win the lost; secondly, to equip believers to do likewise. “Which believers?” you may ask. All believers! You may be a business person, stay-at-home mom, lawyer, nurse, teacher, waiter, doctor, truck driver, musician, scientist, cleaner, artist, cashier, student, worship leader, or even have no job to speak of. In addition to your current pursuits and whatever unique calling the Lord has laid on your heart to fulfill, you have been commissioned as a soul-winner.

---

*You have been commissioned as a soul-winner.*

---

In fact, this appointment intertwines with your occupation, talents and interests. Wherever you are, wherever you go, whatever you do, Jesus has commissioned you to be His hands and His mouthpiece. You might wonder to yourself, “But when was I commissioned?” In Mark 16:15–18 (NKJV), we read:

*And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands*

*on the sick, and they will recover.”*

This command is commonly known as the Great Commission. While Jesus said this solely to His eleven disciples, He instructed them very clearly to make disciples of their own.

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

– Matthew 28:19–20, NKJV

Note that Jesus did not only instruct His followers to baptize their newfound disciples in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but also to teach them to observe all the things He had commanded His first followers to do. This of course included the instruction Jesus gave to preach the Gospel and, when needed, to heal the sick, cast out demons and the like. Consequently, such a directive is applicable to anyone who would call upon His name and become a child of God. Now, while not all believers are called to evangelize en masse across the world, all are called to share the good news with their world: wherever they may be, this day, right now.

## HIS HEART, OUR RESPONSIBILITY

A weighty conversation took place between Moses and God in Exodus 3, one that spring-boarded the deliverance of the children of Israel out of the iron fist of Egypt. Let us consider a portion thereof:

*Then Moses asked God, "If I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what should I tell them?" God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you. God also said to Moses, "Say this to the Israelites: The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever; this is how I am to be remembered in every generation."*

– Exodus 3:13–15, CSB

---

***Now, while not all believers are called to evangelize en masse across the world, all are called to share the good news with their world: wherever they may be, this day, right now.***

---

In this passage, our heavenly Father refused to restrict Himself to a single Name. He is, after all, the great I AM, impossible to box or categorize. He is the Mighty One, God Most High, Creator, Provider, Healer, Judge, Lord of

Hosts and Shepherd. He is our Peace, Banner, Omnipotent Lord and the God Who Sees.

And yet, when the Son of God came to earth, the Father made a bold statement.

He gave His Son a specific Name with a specific meaning. Out of all that He was, is and forever will be, God selected a Name that would best describe His heart. What Name did He choose? Jesus! This wondrous name finds its origins in the Hebrew language and can be translated as “God saves” or “God is salvation”—how terrific! This is our glorious truth. The heart of God beats with an urgency to save. Above all else, this is who He is. The salvation of mankind is the heartbeat of God. This is His top priority, the number one on His to-do list. And, since it is His priority, it should be ours as well.

---

*The salvation of mankind is the  
heartbeat of God. This is His top priority,  
the number one on His to-do list.*

---

## THE BRIDGE

In essence, the believer is the bridge between the unbeliever and Jesus. In John 1:6–8 (NKJV), we read:

*There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.*

John the Baptist was described here as a witness, born to proclaim all the wonders of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who was to take away the sins of the world. John's primary purpose was to connect people with the Savior of their souls. Now, just as John was called to be a witness, so is every believer. Our words and actions form the link between the lost and Christ. If we choose not to shine for Him, the unbeliever is left with no hope of redemption.

This is an extraordinary concept. Although Jesus died and rose again, His death and His resurrection can have no impact on anyone should this knowledge not be communicated. We are all John the Baptists, so to speak, being commanded to go forth and be the bridge between this world and our awe-inspiring Savior. This is both a tremendous responsibility and a wonderful privilege.

The Great Commission is a call to action. It is a call to do something, not to sit passively by while multitudes live and die without Christ.

The apostle Paul shared a similar sentiment in Romans 10:14 (ESV):

*How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?*

You may say that you are not a preacher. The Greek word that is translated as “preacher” is in fact not a noun but a verb. It may have been better translated as “proclaiming”. The English version of the sentence could therefore read: “And how shall they hear without one proclaiming?”

---

*The Great Commission is a call to action. It is a call to do something, not to sit passively by while multitudes live and die without Christ.*

---

Now, to proclaim does not necessarily mean to speak using a microphone or even to speak loudly. However, it does require one to express something to another person and to do so with a certain amount of emphasis or heartfelt conviction. Speaking to a single person about Jesus with sincerity—regardless of the loudness or length of conversation—is a proclamation. In so doing, you become the one Paul spoke about in the verse above. You are the one proclaiming that Jesus loves and Jesus saves. How marvelous!

When John the Baptist was asked by the Jews who he was, he responded as follows:

*“I am a voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord.’”*

– John 1:23, NASB

As it was John’s responsibility to prepare for the first coming of Christ, so it is our responsibility to prepare for the second. How are we to do so? By proclaiming the glorious good news of redemption!

---

*Speaking to a single person about Jesus from the heart—regardless of the loudness or length of conversation—is a proclamation.*

---

Note how John described himself as “the voice”. This is important for two reasons. First, he did not keep quiet. A voice speaks. A voice shares. A voice communicates. While we are of course meant to preach the Gospel through our actions, this is never a substitute for explaining the actual message of salvation. People will only call on the Name of Jesus if they know why they need to. Second, John was humble. He did not elevate his position or parade about with a title. He did not need one. He was the voice, the messenger, the witness.

*People will only call on the Name of  
Jesus if they know why they need to.*

---

This was sufficient for John, the man God chose to pave the way for the Savior of this world. And so, with all boldness and humility, may we also never cease to declare, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29, NKJV). The Holy Spirit will enable us. How will He empower us to do this? We will discuss this in more detail in the chapters to follow.

## OBLIGATED

In Romans 1:14 (NKJV), Paul spoke about an obligation that he had to the unsaved, to those still dying in their sins:

*I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians,  
both to wise and to unwise.*

Paul did not preach out of pity. He was not doing a service or favor to those to whom he witnessed. He was bound to preach the message of salvation to them. He considered himself the debtor and the people the creditors.

Indeed, this is the case for all believers. The gift of salvation comes with a debt that needs to be settled. This is not, of course, towards God. Jesus freely gives the gift of everlasting life to all who ask for it. However, God does instruct that we share the good news with others. The

believer is the debtor of the unbeliever. As Christians, we owe the Gospel message to those who are unsaved—we are obligated to share the good news with them. Omitting to do so will result in multitudes of men and women being lost forever. Certainly, this is a good enough reason for us to get going!

Most believers are familiar with the teaching of Jesus where He compares believers to lamps that are set on lampstands:

*“No one, after lighting a lamp, covers it with a basket or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand so that those who come in may see its light.”*

– Luke 8:16, CSB

Jesus’ statement is so bold, so certain that the hearer is left with the impression that hiding such a lamp would be complete and utter foolishness. Just as we would strike a match or flick a switch for the purpose of spreading light and heat, so Jesus sets His children ablaze. But for what purpose? What are we, as believers, meant to emanate? In Isaiah 62:1 (NKJV), we read that salvation is compared to a lamp that burns:

*“For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns.”*

If we place these two Scriptures side by side, it becomes abundantly clear: The message that believers are meant to communicate through their words and deeds is none other than salvation! This simple proclamation should permeate all we are and all we do.

---

*As believers, our primary purpose and calling is to share the matchless message of redemption.*

---

So many believers shine with deeds that look good on the surface. Initiatives that aid the oppressed and empower the underprivileged are all wonderful. However, if the center of those projects is not the salvation of those who are helped, then we as the church have missed the point entirely.

We cannot offer a temporary solution but ignore the eternal one. As believers, our primary purpose and calling is to share the matchless message of redemption, so that all eyes may be opened to the glorious reality that Jesus saves!

Have you been grumbling that there are very few believers at your work, place of study or in your community? Jesus has done with you exactly what He promised. He has taken you—His lamp—and placed you out in the open in a dark place. Your job is now to shine: Shine so others may see His love, His goodness and His eagerness to save. Shine so they may want what you have—a relationship with the Author of love, the Source of true peace, the Eternal Spring of unspeakable joy.

## ETERNITY-MINDED

The apostle Paul understood that the reality of eternity must at all times supersede earthly dilemmas. Daily challenges usurp our attention, threatening to overwhelm us so that we “take our eyes off the prize”. What is the prize? Simply put, plundering hell to populate heaven! The big picture is eternity, and our role in it is of tremendous importance. In 2 Corinthians 5:14–15 (ESV), we read:

*For the love of God controls us . . . one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.*

And then in verse 18 (NKJV), we read:

*Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.*

---

***The reality of eternity must at all times supersede earthly dilemmas.***

---

The deed has been done, the redemptive work accomplished. However, such a glorious plan only impacts the life of an individual when they become aware of it and accept the Lord as their personal Savior. We are the messengers, the ones who have been entrusted with the word of

truth. If we keep silent, the world perishes. Dear friend, have you become distracted by earthly dilemmas? Have you become so obsessed with your career, wealth and personal issues that you no longer witness to those dying without Christ? Our priorities must be in order: eternity first; then everything else.

*If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.”*

– Colossians 3:1–2, NKJV

Jesus spoke to His disciples in the Gospel of John about bearing fruit that remains:

*“You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.”*

– John 15:16, NASB

Jesus was speaking of works that would have eternal value. What works are these? It is only the souls of men and women that will live on for eternity; all else fades away. Accordingly, the works Jesus spoke of relate to ensuring these precious souls continue in heaven, rather than in hell. He was speaking of soul-winning!

---

*We are the messengers, the ones who  
have been entrusted with the word of truth.  
If we keep silent, the world perishes.*

---

This activity should sit at the core of our everyday lives. In our words and deeds, we should be grabbing hold of every opportunity to direct people to Christ. We should be living with eternity in mind. All else is dust, all else will fade away as if it never was. You do not want to arrive in heaven only to realize that what you lived for was but a fleeting shadow, never to be remembered again. What a tragic day that would be.

---

*We should be living with eternity in mind.  
All else is dust, all else will fade  
away as if it never was.*

---

## THEIR BLOOD, OUR HANDS

*I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the  
blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare  
to you the whole counsel of God.*

– Acts 20:26–27, NKJV

In the above verse, Paul was addressing the Ephesian elders before he departed from them to Jerusalem, a city in which he fully anticipated he would suffer and even die for the faith. His speech to them was one of farewell: “And see,

now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem,” he said in verses 22–23, “not knowing the things that will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.”

“I kept back nothing that was helpful,” he voiced in verses 20–21, “but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.”

What Paul said about being innocent of the blood of all people reflects what God declared through the prophet in Ezekiel 3:18–19 (NKJV):

*“When I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.”*

What Paul was saying was this: “I have proclaimed the Gospel with all that is within me. I have given my all. I have held nothing back. I have shouted from the rooftops that Jesus saves. I have warned the wicked. Should they continue in their sin, it will not be because they did not know the truth about the Redeemer of this world.”

---

*We are guilty of the blood of the unsaved if  
we do not share the good news with them.*

---

Can you say this about your life? Can I say it about mine? What we read in Ezekiel is sobering: While the Lord is not trying to scare us here, He *is* trying to communicate the urgency of the task at hand and the role His children are to play in it. We are guilty of the blood of the unsaved if we do not share the good news with them. For their sake, for ours and for the sake of our Jesus who died to set all people free, the Gospel must be preached.

# DISCUSSION POINTS

---

*1. If we do not proclaim the Gospel, our Lord  
bled and died for nothing.*

---

What responsibility has the Lord given to His  
followers?

---

*2. Now, while not all believers are called to  
evangelize en masse across the world, all are  
called to share the good news with their world:  
wherever they may be, this day, right now.*

---

Did you understand before today that every  
believer has been commissioned as a soul-win-  
ner? If yes, how have you been living out this  
commission? If no, how has this knowledge  
impacted you?

Who forms part of your world? This would  
include—among others—your family, friends,  
colleagues, employees, fellow students and the  
workers at your local supermarket.

---

***3. The salvation of mankind is the heartbeat of God. This is His top priority, the number one on His to-do list.***

---

What does this tell us about God?

Where does soul-winning currently rank on your own personal list of priorities?

---

***4. Dear friend, have you become distracted by earthly dilemmas? Have you become so obsessed with your career, wealth and personal issues that you no longer witness to those dying without Christ?***

---

What would be your honest response to this question?

# ACTION STEPS

1. Spend some time mediating on how Jesus died on the cross for the salvation of this world. Then, spend some time mediating on the fact that you—yes, you!—have been commissioned by Him to share this message with others.

2. Spend some time asking the Lord to help get your priorities in order. Tell Him that you want His priority—the salvation of souls—to become your priority. Ask Him to forgive you for being so distracted and earthly-minded. Ask Him to help you become—as you progress through this book—the passionate witness that He needs you to be.

3. How can you ensure that you are living with an eternal perspective? Think of a few methods you can use to remind yourself during the day that the salvation of souls is your top priority. You will soon learn more about how to witness but for now, let it start becoming your mindset.

For example, stick a note on your bathroom mirror, computer or fridge that says, “Souls!” or put a reminder on your phone that says, “Share Jesus!” If you keep a diary, start writing “Witness!”—or something similar—at the top of each page.

# DECLARATIONS

*I am a soul-winner!*

*I am a witness!*

*I am a Gospel-proclaimer!*

*Soul-winning is my top priority.*

*I am a shining lamp, positioned by God in my world.*

*I live with eternity in mind.*



## *Chapter 2*

---

# GOD WANTS TO USE YOU

**T**his book was written to take you on a journey—a journey to becoming a soul-winner. This does not only mean that God uses you to share the good news that Jesus wants to save all from sin and offer them eternal life. It also means that He moves through you to heal the sick and to set free those who are spiritually held captive by the devil and his forces. These tasks are part and parcel of the Great Commission, the Gospel message and being a witness (see Mark 16:17–18).

In Colossians 1:19–20 (NKJV), the Bible speaks of how the Gospel message reconciles God with man:

*For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*

Consequently, proclaiming the good news results in nothing less than heaven colliding with earth. What happens at this point of contact? The miraculous! Why then are people surprised when signs and wonders follow the preaching of the death and resurrection of Christ? These things should be expected, anticipated, even waited upon.

Salvation. Healing. Deliverance. Heaven colliding with humanity is no small matter. Light dissolves darkness. God and man reunite. This is the answer to every soulish dilemma, the secret weapon that conquers all. People have written songs and poems and have philosophized about wanting “heaven on earth”. Born-again, Spirit-filled believers are the only ones able to make it so. How? By preaching the Gospel!

So many who attend our Gospel Crusades are first healed of some disease or affliction before they accept Jesus as Savior. Having been raised in communities where idol worship is rampant and the local witchdoctor habitually consulted, they first need Jesus to show Himself as the one, strong, true, all-powerful, loving God before they can cast aside their childhood beliefs and put their trust solely in Him.

Our Lord does not seem to mind. He heals them and they receive Him. Often, one person from a village getting healed will result in that entire village flooding to where the crusade is being held and accepting Christ. Healing results in salvation. This does not always happen, but very, very often.

Does Jesus heal to prove a point? He heals because He loves. He heals because He has compassion on the broken and hurting. He heals because His death and resurrection conquered not only sin but also every sickness and every disease, named and unnamed. A point proven is merely a wondrous by-product of the physical miracle.

*He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.*

– Isaiah 53:5, NKJV

You may never have the opportunity to witness to someone from another religion. However, everyone worships something—or someone. They might worship their career, aspirations, intellect, spouse, money, heritage or mentor. They might simply worship themselves, being self-seeking and self-obsessed. If Jesus touches their body, He will touch their heart and, consequently, grab their attention.

You may say that I do not know you, that you have made many mistakes and cannot be capable of ever doing anything of significance. You believe that God could never use you. My friend, be assured. You may feel small and unable, but your God is very, very big and most able. Together with Him, the impossible becomes possible.

By looking at the Scriptures, I want to prove to you that anyone can be used by God, including you.

*You may feel small and unable, but your  
God is very, very big and most able.*

---

## THE LITTLE BUSH

Let us return to Exodus 3. The chapter begins with the scene of Moses shepherding a flock of sheep (belonging to his father-in-law) to the very base of Mount Horeb, which is described as “the mountain of God”. Verses 1–4 (NKJV) tell us:

*Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, “I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.” So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.”*

One would have expected God to speak from the top of that glorious mountain, since the name *Horeb* is believed to have meant “glowing” or “heat”. This would have wonderfully shown off the majesty, might and splendor of our

Lord, His voice plummeting off its imposing peaks. For it to be titled “the mountain of God”, it must have been impressive to behold.

---

*Why, we may ask, did God choose  
to speak through this mere shrub,  
so measly and insignificant?*

---

And yet, rather than bellow off the top of its summit, God came down its slopes, right to the very base. There, He selected a little bush. It is probable that it was dry, prickly and average in size. Moses had most likely walked past it hundreds of times before, his sheep nibbling at its twigs and chewing the odd leaf. He had never noticed it. And why should he? The bush was completely unremarkable.

But then something happened. God put His fire into that bush! Suddenly, it was transformed from something utterly ordinary into the mouthpiece of God Almighty. How fantastic. Why, we may ask, did God choose to speak through this mere shrub, so measly and insignificant? Surely the mountain would have been a worthier vessel that could better represent the Creator of the universe?

Reading this passage one day, I enquired of the Lord: “Why the bush, Father God? Why such an insignificant little bush? Why not use the mountain, the mighty mountain?” Do you know what answer I received from heaven? God’s response cut me down to size and thrilled my heart

at the same time. “Dearest Tamryn,” came the whisper, “you are that little bush.”

I saw the truth. A little bush was what I was. A dainty, white woman—not at all threatening from the outside—called to crusade across Africa, snatching souls from the clutches of the devil himself. A little bush was what I was, but one that is filled with the fire of God Almighty!

God wanted to prove a point through Exodus 3. He wanted to show His children that He is well able to use even those who deem themselves to be among the weakest and most unimpressive. We are all little bushes, rife with imperfections and failings. I am a little bush and so are you. Yet, our heavenly Father wants to use every one of us to manifest His glory. How wonderful.

---

*He is well able to use even those who deem themselves to be among the weakest and most unimpressive. We are all little bushes, rife with imperfections and failings.*

---

## SOUL-WINNING STEPHEN

Let us now consider Acts 6. In this chapter we read of how the twelve apostles appointed seven born-again, Spirit-filled men to take care of the day-to-day church administration, allowing the apostles to commit more time to prayer and preaching.

*Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”*

– Acts 6:3–4, NASB

One of the men appointed was called Stephen, and the entire content of Acts 7 is devoted to him. In Acts 6:8 (NKJV), we read:

*And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.*

In fact, God used him so mightily that the enemies of the church took their attention off what the apostles were doing and directed it at bringing an end to this church administrator. The high priest and his council even ended up stoning Stephen to death with their very own hands, following an impassioned Gospel message preached by him after he was brought before them.

*When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.*

– Acts 7:54–60, NKJV

Stephen died as Jesus did, begging forgiveness for his persecutors. What manner of man is this, one so consumed with zeal for the lost that he would die trying to save the souls of those murdering him? Take note that this man was not a full-time evangelist, pastor or apostle. He was simply Stephen, a man eager to serve his Lord. Today, we can compare him to the church volunteer. Perhaps he was responsible for welcoming newcomers, pouring the tea, unpacking chairs, buying supplies or putting up posters for the upcoming event. However, while he was busy fulfilling his various responsibilities, God used him mightily

to win the lost and set the captives free.

I can just picture him going about his seemingly menial tasks. When buying stock for the stationery cupboard, Stephen would witness a shop attendant wince as he lifted a heavy box. “You seem in pain, sir,” I can imagine him commenting. “May I pray for you?” A few moments later and that attendant felt brand new, eagerly asking Stephen to tell him more about the Jesus in whose name the prayer was prayed. Stephen, of course, keenly obliged. When handing out flyers for the upcoming crusade meeting, he would notice a lady looking rather sad and approach her directly. “Hello madam, I noticed you are looking a little sad today. Do you know that there is a God who created you and loves you unconditionally? Do you know that if you surrender your life to Him, He will not only make a home in your heart and walk every step with you here on earth, but that one day, when you die, you will go straight to heaven?” A brief conversation later and that precious lady had a smile on her face and Jesus in her heart. How marvelous! Yes, indeed, Stephen must have been a fireball for our Lord, red hot and unashamed of it.

---

*The streets are your pulpit; the marketplace your platform. There are precious people all around you in need of a touch from heaven.*

---

Do not be discouraged because you are not a preacher on the stage. God wants to use you as mightily as He is

using that man or woman with the microphone. The streets are your pulpit; the marketplace your platform. There are precious people all around you in need of a touch from heaven. You are the vessel carrying that touch and you have been called to bring heaven to earth. If God could use Stephen, He can use you.

## PHENOMENAL PHILIP

Philip was another of the seven Spirit-filled men chosen in Acts 6. While the name of one of the twelve apostles was also Philip, Scripture records more about Philip the church administrator than Philip the apostle. We read in Acts 8 that a great persecution arose against the church in Jerusalem, following the stoning of Stephen. The believers were all scattered throughout Judea and Samaria, except for the apostles. The Bible then speaks about Philip going to Samaria (v. 5). Clearly, this was not Philip the apostle but rather the man who was appointed to manage the church affairs, alongside Stephen and the other five. We read the following concerning this Philip in verses 6–8 (NLT):

*Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had*

*been paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great joy in that city.*

Philip must have been a mighty man of God indeed! The Lord used this church worker to shake an entire city with waves of salvation, healing and deliverance. In fact, many chapters later, Philip is referred to as an evangelist. In Acts 21:8, we read that Paul stayed at the house of “Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven”. Clearly, this administrative overseer was a Spirit-fueled force and sold-out Gospel proclaimer.

One of the most intriguing stories we read in the book of Acts features Philip. Acts 8 tells the story of Philip ministering to an Ethiopian eunuch, a man of great authority who was in charge of the treasury of Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians. The Holy Spirit instructed Philip to run and overtake the chariot of this man (v. 29). Now, we do not know how quickly the chariot was traveling. Perhaps the horses were walking and catching up to the transport was an easy feat. If the horses had been moving at any speed faster than a walk, however, overtaking the chariot would have required divine intervention—which the Lord clearly supplied. The eunuch was reading Isaiah 53 aloud and after Philip overheard him and commented on it, he was invited into the chariot. He shared the Gospel and the result was wonderful: The Ethiopian confessed his belief in the Lord and was baptized in some water they came across.

After this, another extraordinary event took place:

*When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.*

– Acts 8:39–40, ESV

The Spirit of the Lord took Philip away, getting him to his next preaching engagement in the blink of an eye. How fantastic! I do not know about you, but I rely on car, plane, train or my own two legs to get me around. Not even the great apostles Peter and Paul ever experienced this mode of divinely operated transportation—as far as we know from Scripture.

---

*God used a simple administrator  
to share the Good News.*

---

God used a simple administrator not only to share the Good News with a man of great prominence—which undoubtedly triggered the spread of the Gospel across Africa—but also to be part of an occurrence that quite simply boggles the mind. This manner of miracle utterly defies the laws of physics, but God is the Creator of such rules and He is therefore able to circumvent them when

He deems it necessary. While the salvation of a human soul far supersedes even a marvel of this rare type, what this does do is remind us that our God is indeed the God of the impossible. When we face a challenge that seems insurmountable, what happened to Philip should inspire us. Think also of the sun stopping in the sky for Joshua; food multiplying in the hands of Christ; Jesus walking on the stormy sea of Galilee. These wonders should cement our faith and assure us that God *is* faithful. He is fully and supremely able to come to the aid of His children!

In conclusion, Stephen, Philip, and the burning bush from Exodus 3 all had one vital thing in common: the fire of God. On the outside, none were impressive. But, on the inside, they were extraordinary. The Holy Spirit blazed within them—and this made all the difference. In the next chapter we will discuss how the Holy Spirit wants to fill *us* with His incomparable fire-power.

---

*On the outside, none were impressive.  
But, on the inside, they were extraordinary.  
The Holy Spirit blazed within them—  
and this made all the difference.*

---

# DISCUSSION POINTS

---

*1. Anyone can be used by God, including you!*

---

If you feel that God cannot use you, what are the reasons that come to mind?

---

*2. He is well able to use even those who deem themselves to be among the weakest and most unimpressive. We are all little bushes, rife with imperfections and failings.*

---

How does the story of the little bush in Exodus 3 encourage you? Remember, God chose to use this insignificant shrub rather than the mighty Mount Horeb in a pivotal moment in the life of Moses and the history of Israel!

---

*3. God wants to use you as mightily as He is using that man or woman with the microphone. The streets are your pulpit; the marketplace your platform.*

---

How do the stories of Stephen and Philip make you feel, knowing that even though they were not numbered among the great apostles, they were used as powerfully by God as Peter, John and Paul?

---

*4. There are precious people all around you in need of a touch from heaven. You are that vessel carrying that touch and you have been called to bring heaven to earth.*

---

What would your life look like if you shared Jesus as you went about your daily activities?

How would you be behaving differently and how would being used by God make you feel?

# ACTION STEPS

1. Make a list of those things that you feel disqualify you from being used by God. As you go through this book and realise that these reasons do not disqualify you at all, cross them off one by one.

2. Close your eyes and picture that little bush we read about in Exodus 3, compared to the mighty Mount Horeb. Compare their sizes, strength and general impressiveness. Now, if you feel like that little bush, pray this prayer with all sincerity: “Father God, here I am, like that little bush. As you used it for Your glory, use me too. I may feel small and unable, but You are very, very big and most able!  
Amen.”

# DECLARATIONS

*God wants to use me!*

*I am a little bush, burning for Jesus!*

*I am another Stephen.*

*I am another Philip.*

*I do not need a microphone to be used by God.*

*The streets are my pulpit. The marketplace my platform.*



## Chapter 3

---

# THE HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

When John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the river Jordan, God the Father was not going to be left out. He was eager to baptize Jesus as well, but not with water. Rather, Jesus would be baptized with the Holy Spirit! The Bible explains how the Spirit of God descended and remained upon Jesus:

*After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy.”*

– Matthew 3:16–17, NASB

By being filled with the Spirit Himself, Jesus set a pattern for His children to follow. Once saved, the next step for the believer is this marvelous infilling. Before Jesus was

filled, He did no mighty works. After He was filled, He became unstoppable. Certainly, if Jesus needed the Holy Spirit in order to do the work of God, you and I need Him as well.

---

*You become utterly soaked in His power, presence and personality. You become wholly united with Him.*

---

Before we continue, we need to have a clear understanding of the verb “to baptize” and its noun “baptism”. Simply put, this is the terminology the Bible uses to describe the most essential, empowering and necessary experience a born-again believer can have.

When you accepted Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit came to live in you. However, being baptized in Him involves far more than God simply setting up home in your heart. Rather, it means you become utterly soaked in His power, presence and personality. You become wholly united with Him, ready to labor as His vessel to plunder hell and populate heaven!

---

*For the believer, this is the gift of all gifts.*

---

In the New Testament, the subject of baptism is first mentioned in Matthew 3. John the Baptist is introduced to us, preaching a message of repentance and baptizing remorseful souls in the Jordan River. This was the man

appointed by heaven to be Jesus' forerunner. What a mighty responsibility!

Surely, in order to properly introduce Him, John must have had a crystal-clear understanding of who Jesus was called to be. In fact, when speaking of Jesus, John gave Him two major titles that perfectly summarized His calling. First, He was declared to be the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world (see John 1:29). This first title pointed to Jesus as Savior. For the unbeliever, salvation is the most priceless, precious gift that God could ever give. Second, He was declared to be the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. This second title pointed to Jesus the Baptizer. John said:

*“As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”*

– Matthew 3:11, NASB

For the believer, this is the gift of all gifts. To be filled from the top of one's head to the soles of one's feet with the Spirit of the Most High God, to be completely fired up for service, is the most wondrous gift a Christian could ever receive. In fact, in the book of Acts, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is frequently referred to as “the gift”. Consider Acts 10:45 (NKJV):

*Those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

In the original Greek, the primary meaning of “to baptize” is to dip, immerse or plunge. This refers to the subject being submerged in its entirety. Being baptized is anything but a sprinkling or dabbing. Instead, it is a total dunking from head to toe with whatever medium the baptizer is using. When Jesus Himself was baptized in the Jordan River, we read of Him “coming up out of the water” (Mark 1:10, NKJV). This wording gives us a clear picture of being submersed. After all, one would not need to “come out” if one had not gone down or beneath.

---

*Being baptized with the Holy Spirit means that we are entirely immersed in Him.*

---

If being baptized with the Spirit meant we would be merely dusted with Him (like sprinkling salt on a meal) or our little toe dipped in Him (like testing the chilliness of a river before taking a swim), the word “baptize” would never have been used. Clearly, this wondrous experience consists of far more than a simple sprinkling or toe-dipping. In fact, being baptized with the Holy Spirit means that we are entirely immersed in Him.

In Acts 1:5 (NKJV), Jesus was engaged in the very last conversation He would have with His disciples before

ascending to heaven. He emphasized the extreme importance of His followers not departing from Jerusalem until they had been baptized with the Holy Spirit:

*“For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”*

The disciples were about to be fully immersed in the Spirit of God. Of course, they desperately needed this thorough soaking in order to fulfill the Great Commission we discussed in chapter 1.

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”*

– Acts 1:8, NASB

---

***Without the baptism, the Great Commission would quickly have become the Great Omission.***

---

Without the baptism, the Great Commission would quickly have become the Great Omission, the disciples having had no power in their fleshly selves. We read what happened next in Acts 2:1–4 (NKJV):

*When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

Note how, while Jesus promised that His followers would be “baptized with the Holy Spirit”, the term used in Acts 2 is “filled with the Holy Spirit”. Do you see how the word “baptized” has been replaced by the word “filled”? Why the sudden change of terminology? Our Lord did not want us to be under the impression that being baptized with His Spirit is only an outward experience. Being baptized with water merely results in the outer body getting wet. Even while this happens from head to toe, no water penetrates. Nonetheless, being baptized with water is important because of what it symbolizes: us dying with Christ, only to be raised from the dead together with Him as new creations.

Being baptized with the Holy Spirit, meanwhile, touches us completely: We become filled with Him on the inside and covered by Him on the outside. Indeed, we are soaked in His might, magnificence and makeup. There is nothing symbolic; the importance is the act itself—being submerged in the Spirit of God, wholly and completely. When a sponge

is soaked in water, it becomes saturated with liquid. Likewise, when you are baptized with Him, you become saturated with Him. Hallelujah!

---

*When you are baptized with Him, you  
become saturated with Him. Hallelujah!*

---

In South Africa, where I grew up, we like to cook meat over an open fire. We call it having a *braai*. It is a social, friendly affair. In other parts of the world, the term barbecue is used. Very often, in order to add more flavor to the meat, the pieces are soaked or marinated in sauce before being cooked, sometimes even overnight. The meat goes into the sauce and the sauce goes into the meat. Once the process is complete, the meat tastes like the sauce and is sodden with the sauce. Likewise, when we are baptized with His Spirit, we are marinated in Him. We go into Him and He goes into us. This is a permanent exchange. Once done, He has permeated us forever. The baptism is an experience like no other!

Another part of my South African culture involves the dunking of a rusk in a mug of hot tea or coffee. What is a rusk? In short, a double-baked hunk of bread dough—although I promise that it tastes more delicious than it sounds! The rusk goes into the tea and the tea is absorbed by the rusk. The two become one. By the time the rusk is pulled out and eaten, it tastes like the tea and is sodden with the tea.

Its dryness is no more. It drips with goodness and

deliciousness. This is what happens to us when we are baptized with the Spirit. We become utterly infused with Him.

---

*When we are baptized with His Spirit, we are marinated in Him. We go into Him and He goes into us. This is a permanent exchange.*

---

## MORE OF HIM

As a young woman, reading what the Lord shared with His disciples in John 16:7 (NKJV) would always leave me dreadfully confused: “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away,” He declared, “for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.” How could Jesus ascending to heaven be to the advantage of the believer? I did not understand this. I would imagine what it must have been like walking with Christ while He was still in bodily form, dwelling among us, as the apostle John so aptly stated in His gospel: “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14, NKJV).

How could Jesus ascending to heaven be to the advantage of the believer? I did not understand this. I would imagine what it must have been like walking with Christ while He was still in bodily form, dwelling among us, as

the apostle John so aptly stated in His gospel: “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14, NKJV).

I pictured being able to do what that same apostle had described doing: “What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have observed and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life” (1 John 1:1, CSB).

I pictured myself gripping the hand of the Light of Life, hearing the melody of His voice, gazing into the eyes of God Himself. It was a picture that thrilled my heart and set my soul ablaze. Our Lord leaving us could surely not mean an improvement on Him being with us? How could this be? It was only after I had grasped what it truly means to be baptized with His Spirit, that I understood.

Jesus loves His children far too much for them to suffer the consequences of Him persisting among them in an earthly body. If our Lord had lingered—even indefinitely—He would have remained restricted by what one mouth and two hands would allow: one word spoken at a time, one embrace given at a time, one healing touch imparted at a time. He would have been able to address or pray for His followers en masse, but that intense, one-on-one, concentrated, consistent attention would have been limited to a select few, just as it was in Bible times.

Only a handful of marvelously privileged, appointed persons would have enjoyed constant fellowship with Him.

We read in the New Testament how our Lord selected twelve men to be His inner circle. How frustrating this must have been for Him, being forced to limit intimate fellowship to a mere dozen! He loved every man and every woman with like fervor, and He desired heartfelt camaraderie with all rather than a few. And yet, this was the way it had to be.

For someone to truly pass on to another who they are, eyes must be searched, hands grasped, time spent, questions asked, answers given, answers questioned. Hearts require uniting. Souls need to become one. This is possible in a small group, not a large one. Jesus had to win the hearts and minds of the chosen twelve if there was any hope of them becoming who He needed them to be: the very first carriers of the Great Commission baton. And so, Jesus poured all He was into them, and only them. He gave to the crowds as well, of course. Yet, to this inner circle, He was not just Savior, but Friend. He was not only Healer and Deliverer, but Confidante as well.

This is how our Lord was limited while He was in the flesh. He could only develop deep, meaningful relationships with a few, and even with those few He was still limited. His body needed sleep. When He gave someone His undivided attention, He could pay attention to no one else. He could not know the thoughts of a person unless the Spirit revealed them to Him. He was limited—severely limited.

This is not what our Jesus wants! He desires to know our every thought. He yearns to attend to each one of us with unceasing devotion, morning, noon and night. He

wants to be forever in our company, whether we are at work, play or rest. He wants to converse with us in the middle of a crowd or the privacy of our bedroom. He wants all of us, all the time. This is the passion He has for us, the fervor with which He wants us. This is not possible with Him in a human body. Continuing in a body of flesh would have horribly restricted His intimacy with those He died to save.

---

*He wants all of us, all the time.  
This is the passion He has for us,  
the fervor with which He wants us.*

---

Calling on the Name of Jesus and confessing Him to be the Lord and Savior of our lives does indeed mean that He comes to abide within us. “. . . That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,” we read in Ephesians 3:17 (NKJV). When faith is applied, Christ comes to abide. It is as simple as that.

In John 14:23 (ESV), the Lord says the following: “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” *Come to him. Home.* Such words speak of remaining, settling, staying put. Accepting Jesus as Lord makes us His temple.

In the first chapter of Ephesians we read about something else that happens when we become children of God: “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the

gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit” (Ephesians 1:13, ESV).

The verb “to seal” is a precious one. The original Greek denotes ownership, validation, guarantee, an agreement that is legally binding. Believing in Jesus results in us being stamped or sealed with His mark and thus declared children of God. What is His mark? Rather, we should ask “Who is His mark?” His mark is not a thing but a Person. Yes, indeed, His mark is His Spirit! How glorious. And yet, there is more.

---

*Jesus abiding within our hearts and His  
Spirit marking us as His own is not enough.  
A saturation must take place.*

---

Jesus abiding within our hearts and His Spirit marking us as His own is not enough. A saturation must take place; a Holy Spirit-drenching must ensue. Hence, the baptism, hence, the infilling. By filling us with His Spirit, Jesus gets closer to us than His human Person could ever have allowed.

## RIVERS OF WATER

We receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit in the same way that we receive salvation—by faith. Both are gifts that we freely receive from the Lord. As I explained earlier in this chapter, the Holy Spirit baptism is frequently

referred to as “the gift” in Scripture. So too is salvation. Consider how Jesus described eternal life to a certain Samaritan woman as “the gift of God”. He said to her in John 4:10, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water” (NKJV). Then, He explained to her: “But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14, NKJV). What can we make of this? Salvation is akin to drinking of the Spirit. We ask Jesus to become our Savior, thereby receiving God and becoming His house.

The Holy Spirit baptism follows thereafter. This is when there becomes in us a fountain of water, springing up into everlasting life. In other words, God—already living inside of us—bubbles up from within and saturates us in our entirety. Then, He starts flowing through us, using our deeds of love and words of witness to bring eternal life to others. Jesus reiterates this point in John 7: “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water” (see John 7:37-39). Do you see? We first drink of Him: Salvation. Then, we are filled with His Spirit and rivers of living water bubble up from within, flowing outwards and impacting those around us.

In Acts 8, we read the story of Philip preaching Jesus to the city of Samaria. Many were saved and healed and there was “great joy in that city” (Acts 8:5-8, NKJV). In verses 14-17 we read, “Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit” (NKJV). We can equate “received the word of God” to salvation. First, the people of Samaria received salvation and then, they were prayed for so that they might “receive the Holy Spirit”. Do you see how the verb “receive” is used to refer to both instances? I will repeat the statement that I made earlier: We receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit in the same way that we receive salvation—by faith. Both are gifts that we receive from the hand of the Lord.

## ASK HIM

If you are not yet filled with the Spirit, I invite you to do the following when you next spend time alone with Jesus. Ask Him to baptize you with His Spirit. Spend some time worshiping Him. Speak to your Lord, seek His face and pour out your heart before Him. Then, believe that you have received. Believe that those rivers of living water are

gurgling within, a fountain of water that never runs dry. Believe that you have been saturated with all of God. As the Spirit bubbles and churns within, filling you with Himself, a heavenly language will flow out of your innermost being. This is an outward sign of the inward filling, like smoke coming up from a fire or mist rising from a waterfall. In short, the Holy Spirit within you is praying through you to God, catching your own spirit up in the flow. It is a gift that comes with the gift!

Remember, the Lord will not force your mouth open. The more you speak to Him and worship Him with heartfelt surrender, the more opportunities He will have to cause this river of words to flow. The language you began praying or worshiping in will suddenly change into words that cannot be understood by the human intellect. Such a language is as unique as your fingerprints and perfectly understood by God Almighty. Whenever you pray like this, you are always praying the perfect prayer.

In addition, praying in tongues strengthens, edifies and refreshes your spirit. Through it, your spirit can speak unreservedly to the Lord, elevating you to another level of intimacy with Him. I encourage you to pray in your heavenly tongue as often as possible. You may only be able to speak a few words at first, but it will soon overflow into a torrent of words that can continue for an eternity.

*For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit.*

– 1 Corinthians 14:2. ESV

*But you, dear friends, as you build yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit . . .*

– Jude 20, CSB

*In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.*

– Romans 8:26, NASB

When we read about believers being baptized with the Spirit in Scripture, there is always a clear outward manifestation—something that is seen and heard—and when the type of manifestation is specifically identified in Scripture, such always involves speaking in tongues. Consider the below passages that describe what happened when believers were baptized with the Holy Spirit.

*And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

– Acts 2:4, NKJV

*And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God . . .*

– Acts 10:45-46, NKJV

*And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

– Acts 19:6, NKJV

If your heavenly language does not manifest immediately, do not be discouraged. In this modern age, I believe that our intellect often gets in the way when it comes to this supernatural expression. We overthink things and find it more difficult to yield to what we do not understand. Yet, be assured that because you have asked the Lord to fill you with His Spirit, you have received the gift of the Holy Spirit baptism, just as you received the gift of

salvation—by faith. Now, act as if you are filled! You are filled because you have asked for Him to fill you. Speaking to His disciples about receiving the Holy Spirit, Jesus said the following:

*So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!*

– Luke 11:9-13, NKJV

My dear friend and Crusade Director of In His Name Ministries, Samuel Murrombe, was baptized with the Holy Spirit when he was in prison. He had recently received Jesus as his Savior and along with other material for new believers, he had been given a little booklet on the Holy Spirit baptism. He read it eagerly one evening and prayed after finishing it: “I ask you to baptize me with your Spirit, Jesus. Right now, I believe that I receive this gift. Amen.”

The next day, he joined a prayer meeting for other fellow inmates and believers. Right there in that meeting, as he was praising God and praying to the Lord, the earthly language in which he was speaking ceased and his heavenly tongue started to manifest. As he prayed in that divine language, the power of the Lord exploded in that gathering and many were touched by God. It was glorious!

---

*Right there in that meeting, as he was praising  
God and praying to the Lord, the earthly  
language in which he was speaking ceased and  
his heavenly tongue started to manifest.*

---

And so, if there is a delay between asking the Lord to fill you with His Spirit and speaking in your heavenly language, do not be daunted. Keep working through this book as it guides you through witnessing to the lost and praying for the sick. Get going for Jesus. He is with you and wants to work through you! However, continue asking the Lord to cause that heavenly language to manifest. It might happen in the privacy of your home, during a church service or while you go about your daily routine. Regardless of where it happens, it will happen. Speaking in your own heavenly language is for every believer, including you!

*And so, if there is a delay between asking the Lord to fill you with His Spirit and speaking in your heavenly language, do not be daunted. Keep working through this book as it guides you through witnessing to the lost and praying for the sick.*

---

# DISCUSSION POINTS

---

*1. John the Baptist gave Jesus two titles that perfectly summarized His calling.*

---

What are these two titles and what different functions do they describe?

---

*2. When you accepted Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit came to live in you. However, being baptized in Him involves far more than God simply setting up home in your heart.*

---

After reading this chapter, what do you understand it means to be baptized in the Holy Spirit? In this chapter, I use three different examples to describe what happens to us when Jesus saturates us with His Spirit. I compare the process with a sponge being soaked in water, meat being marinated in sauce and a rusk being dunked into hot tea or coffee. Do any other examples come to mind? Think saturation. Think about examples in which one thing takes upon the nature of something else.

These illustrations are important as they help us imagine the process and hence, better understand what it means to be baptized with the Spirit.

---

***3. Without the Holy Spirit baptism, the Great Commission would quickly have become the Great Omission.***

---

Why is it so important for believers to be baptized with the Spirit?

# ACTION STEPS

1. Picture Jesus immersing you in the Holy Spirit. You go into the Spirit and the Spirit comes into you. You become one with Him. You take on His might, magnificence and makeup. You take on His power, presence and personality. This is who you are as a blood-washed, Spirit-filled child of the Most High God! Mediate on this reality.

2. If you have not yet been baptized with the Holy Spirit, follow the instructions in the last section of this chapter, titled “Ask Him”. If you are going through this book with other believers, you can also pray together as a group and for each another, asking the Lord to fill you and spending some time worshiping Him.

# DECLARATIONS

*I am baptised with the Holy Spirit!*

*I am filled with the Holy Spirit!*

*I am saturated with His might, magnificence and makeup.*

*I am soaked in His power, presence and personality.*

*I speak in my heavenly language.*

## *Chapter 4*

---

# WORKING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

**W**e read in chapter 3 how, when Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit, the picture of a dove was used to symbolize the Spirit of God coming down upon our Lord. As we know, a dove is commonly used to symbolize peace. Appropriately, the Holy Spirit is the one who floods our hearts with the peace of God, comforting, loving and teaching us, ever-present and always trustworthy. Jesus spoke about Him being the One who would guide believers into all truth (see John 16:13). He also said the following concerning the Holy Spirit, when He was speaking to His disciples:

*“I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever.”*

– John 14:16, NKJV

The Greek word translated here as “Helper” is an interesting one. It is a noun derived from a combination of a preposition and a verb. The preposition *para* has a general meaning of being close beside or alongside, while the verb *kaleō* communicates calling, summoning or inviting. Consequently, the noun itself—*paraklētos*—has the meaning of someone or something that is called to come and remain close beside someone or something. The English equivalents are comforter, helper, even intercessor and advocate. The word can carry one or more of these meanings, depending on the situation. In the verse above, all these terms are relevant. The Holy Spirit is called to come alongside the believer, acting not only as our Comforter and Helper, but also as our Intercessor and Advocate.

---

*The Holy Spirit is called to  
come alongside the believer.*

---

His role as Advocate is more subtly implied. In 1 John 2:1 (NKJV), the word *paraklētos* is used to describe Jesus Himself:

*My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

Then, in John 16:13 (ESV), Jesus said the following concerning the Holy Spirit:

*“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.”*

As Jesus defends our case before the Judge of Heaven, reminding the Father that we have been washed clean with His precious blood and therefore stand blameless and faultless, the Holy Spirit labors alongside Him by conveying the good news to us here on earth. “You have been declared, ‘Not guilty,’” He whispers. “Not guilty,” He says. How marvelous!

## THE WITNESS

While the Spirit carries all of these wonderful and very necessary titles, there is another title He carries that is of the utmost importance. He is the Witness. When Jesus poured out His life for us on the cross of Calvary, the price for sin was eternally paid. What was needed after this? Simply put, the communication of this good news to all mankind. Consequently, heaven poured out another member of the Trinity: the Holy Spirit. “And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My

Spirit on all flesh,” we read in Joel 2:28 (NKJV). While the Son’s primary purpose was to purchase salvation for all mankind, the Spirit’s primary purpose is to publicize this glorious achievement. In John 15:26–27 (NKJV), we read:

*“But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.”*

Here Jesus first spoke of the Helper, the Holy Spirit. “He will testify of Me,” Jesus said (John 15:26, NKJV). The Holy Spirit is indeed the One who testifies that Jesus saves, heals and delivers. He is the Chief Witness sent from heaven. However, Jesus did not stop there. Without skipping a beat, He turned to His disciples and said, “You also will bear witness” (John 15:27, NKJV). An exquisite partnership between the believer and Holy Spirit is made incredibly clear. While the Spirit is eager to testify about Jesus, He needs us—His co-witnesses—to get the job done.

---

*The Holy Spirit is the Chief  
Witness sent from Heaven.*

---

When we speak to someone about Christ, the Holy Spirit is right there with us, molding our words into fiery arrows of deliverance. When we pray for the sick and

downtrodden, the Holy Spirit bursts forth from within us, flooding our hands with healing power. Our mouths and hands become the vessels of His witness. Indeed, we bear witness together with Him, man and God working hand in hand and setting the captives free! He is our partner in the miraculous.

“And we are His witnesses to these things,” Peter declared in Acts 5:32 (NKJV), “and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.” Similarly, we read the following in Acts 14:3 (ESV) concerning Paul and Barnabas and their time in Iconium:

*So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.*

Note how the partnership between God and believers is made abundantly clear. He witnesses and we witness—together.

---

*God is our partner in the miraculous.*

---

The Holy Spirit is indeed the Chief Witness from heaven, always eager to proclaim Jesus through His co-witness, the believer. In Acts 15:8 (NKJV), regarding the Roman centurion Cornelius being filled with the Holy Spirit (together with his household), we read that “God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them

the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us.” God acknowledged them. This could better be translated as “God bore witness to them”. In short, God bore witness that Cornelius and his family were believers by filling them with the Chief Witness. God *bears witness* by filling *with the Witness*. How appropriate! In addition, Romans 8:16 (NKJV) shares that “the Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God”. Accordingly, God bears witness by filling us with the Witness who then witnesses first to us that we are His and then through us to others so they can also become His. The Holy Spirit is all about witnessing!

Acts 1:8 (NASB) tells us, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” In other words, being baptized with the Spirit endues us with power. We become partners with the Power-Carrier of all power-carriers: the Spirit of the Most High God! We become His teammate, His co-laborer.

And, our heavenly associate does not merely hold our hand. Rather, He permeates us, making us utterly one with Him. This is an all-pervading, infiltrating, saturating infusion. God seeps and man absorbs. How spectacular! Thereafter, where man moves, God moves; and where God moves, He bids man to move. Man and God move together, carrying out the Great Commission plan. This is exactly how Jesus labored with His Father, having been baptized with the Spirit Himself. Consider Hebrews 2:3–4 (NKJV):

*How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?*

Note how God, through the Holy Spirit, bore witness together with Christ and His disciples.

Now consider Acts 2:22 (NKJV). Here, the apostle Peter is speaking: “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.”

---

*God bears witness by filling us with  
the Witness who then witnesses first to us  
that we are His and then through us to  
others so they can also become His.*

---

When Peter addressed Cornelius, the Roman centurion, and his household, he used similar wording: “. . . How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how he went about doing good and healing all who were under the tyranny of the devil, because God was with him” (Acts 10:38, CSB). *God was with Him.* This is a pivotal statement. Clearly, God—through the Holy Spirit—labored together with His Son to get the job done. Today, He desires to labor with you and me.

John 3 is a well-known portion of Scripture. Here, Jesus explains to a Pharisee named Nicodemus what it means to be born again. Nicodemus begins their conversation by saying, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him” (v. 2, NKJV).

*God is with him.* This is very similar wording to what we read in Acts 10. Even though nobody besides Jesus had yet been baptized with the Holy Spirit, Nicodemus knew that flesh and blood alone could never be responsible for so many dramatically transformed lives and mighty miracles. What Jesus did was the result of man and God working together: in this case, the Son of God and the Spirit of God. In our case, it is the child of God and that same splendid Spirit.

---

*Every moment of witness is backed  
by God Himself, infused with God  
Himself, and driven by God Himself.*

---

Not yet understanding the salvation concept, this Pharisee grasped the Spirit-baptism concept. In verse 11, Jesus affirms the suspicion of Nicodemus: “Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness” (NKJV).

Note the words: *We speak; We know; We have seen; Our witness.* Once we have been filled with the Spirit, witnessing alone is an impossibility. Every moment of witness is

backed by God Himself, infused with God Himself, and driven by God Himself. This is a stunning revelation. His heart, His power; our words, our touch. This makes for an unstoppable team!

The last two verses of Mark communicate the same message: “So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs” (16:19–20, ESV). The Lord was working with them. Scripture emphasizes and re-emphasizes the phenomenal truth that God bids His children be His co-laborers. How thrilling!

Christians who deem the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to be solely for their own pleasure have no true understanding of Him. He empowers, directs and inspires so that we can be His hands, feet and mouthpiece, setting the captives free together with Him. He encourages, supports and consoles so that we in turn can comfort others, just as He comforted the apostle Paul:

*... Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*

– 2 Corinthians 1:4, NKJV

There are many believers who speak of the power of the Holy Spirit, but never allow Him to flow through them, who enjoy His presence but refuse His promptings to minister the love of Jesus to others. The Holy Spirit is not a commodity to be broken down and your favorite parts selected. You cannot delight in Him as your Comforter but refuse to let Him flow through you as Witness. He is a member of the Godhead, intent on His mission to proclaim Christ. Work with Him today!

Spirit-filled believers who are not witnesses for Jesus are generally a sad and pitiful lot. They only speak of Him or pray for the sick when fellowshipping with or ministering to others who are born-again. When it comes to the unbeliever, they remain silent. Such people wonder why they do not feel fulfilled, and why—even as Christians—they feel that something is missing. The truth is, something *is* missing. They are denying their blood-bought nature, the nature of a witness.

---

*He is a member of the Godhead,  
intent on His mission to proclaim  
Christ. Work with Him today!*

---

If this state describes you, hear me now. The Holy Spirit is blazing within you, stirring you to share the good news of salvation with a lost and dying world. Ignoring His prompting and refusing His ministry through you only results in frustrated and unsettled emotions. It is the

most natural thing in the world for the Holy Spirit to work through the believer to win the lost and set the captives free. By stopping His flow, you condemn yourself to unhappiness. A non-witnessing believer is an unhappy believer.

Why remain in this condition? Why deny what Christ has created you to be? Step out today. You will quickly find your heart swelling with joy and singing the words, “For this purpose I was born!”

---

*A non-witnessing believer  
is an unhappy believer.*

---

## PARTNERS IN THE MIRACULOUS

Many Christians are intimidated by the idea of witnessing to unbelievers or praying for the sick. They are afraid that they will perhaps say the wrong thing or that their prayer will be poorly worded and powerless.

Let us return to John 15:26–27. Remember how we discussed you and the Holy Spirit being partners or team members in the miraculous? The dynamics of this relationship are incredibly simple: Just like in any team or partnership, each person involved has different responsibilities.

In order for that team to be victorious, the players must understand what their duties are and then go about fulfilling them as best they can. Consider the game of

cricket. Should the batsmen suddenly decide to drop their bats and start catching the ball instead of batting, chaos would quickly ensue. Similarly, in the relationship between believer and Holy Spirit, each should understand their role and adhere to it. Of course, the Spirit is never confused about His role. Rather, it is the believer who is often uncertain.

---

*Just like in any team or partnership, each person involved has different responsibilities.*

---

Take, for example, a scenario in which the Holy Spirit wants to testify that Jesus saves. Does He bellow out from somewhere in the clouds and say, “Hello, you down there. Do you know who Jesus is?” No, of course not. While we do hear stories of the Lord appearing to people in visions and dreams and introducing Himself to them in person, it is not the norm.

Rather, the Holy Spirit comes to you or me—the born-again, Spirit-filled believer—and He begins to prompt us, whispering to our hearts, “Speak to that one. That one needs to know that Jesus loves them. That one needs to know that Jesus saves.” Should we be obedient to His nudging and speak to the person in question with sincerity, the Holy Spirit wraps Himself around our simple sentences and sets them on fire, turning them into mighty arrows of deliverance. Even the simplest of words become a mode of transport for God Almighty to penetrate a human heart.

Then, the Holy Spirit continues working in that heart, even after the conversation ends, convincing the person that they need the Lord. In 1 Peter 1:12 (NKJV), we read about the Gospel being preached *through* people *by* the Holy Spirit:

*To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.*

---

***The Holy Spirit wraps Himself around our simple sentences and sets them on fire, turning them into mighty arrows of deliverance.***

---

This concept is important for two reasons: First, it makes clear that while God proclaims the Gospel through the mouths of His children, we are never laboring alone. The Holy Spirit strives together with us, setting ablaze with redeeming power every word spoken. He is power personified, being not only the power of God, but also God Himself.

Second, this verse makes it plain that without the Holy Spirit, the story of the death and resurrection of Christ could never win a single soul. It is not enough for it to be preached by flesh and blood—the Holy Spirit must be involved. Why is this? Simply put, the devil has hardened

the hearts of people against God. It is only the Spirit of God who is able to convict them of their sin, showing them both their need for a Savior and that only Jesus is able to do the job. In John 6:44 (NASB), the Lord stated the following:

*“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.”*

It is the Holy Spirit who does the drawing. While the Spirit uses the mouths, hands and feet of the children of God, He is the primary Preacher and Message Bringer. And what a Preacher He is!

---

*The power is not ours; we are merely the power carriers, the wiring through which He moves.*

---

Likewise, when the Holy Spirit wants to heal a sick person or deliver someone who is in bondage, does He zap them without warning somewhere on the street, setting them free from their ailment? No, he does not. He takes you, He takes me—the born-again, Spirit-filled believer—and starts to prompt us. “Pray for that one,” He says. “Go and ask that person if you can pray for them.”

Then, as hands are laid on them and they are prayed for in the matchless Name of Jesus, He shoots through our fingers, His fire burning up sickness and snapping chains.

I was asked one day by a pastor whether I was “good at

healing”. To be honest, I am quite dreadful at it. On my very best day I could not heal a fly even if I tried. But the Holy Spirit abiding within me—and within you—is the most spectacular miracle-worker anyone could ever encounter. I pray, He heals. That is how it works! And it is the same way He will work with and through you. Let us never become confused about who is responsible for what. The power is not ours; we are merely the power carriers, the wiring through which He moves.

In 2 Corinthians 4:7 (CSB), we read, “Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us.” I am always amazed when men and women of God become boastful and arrogant. If one truly understands how the relationship between the believer and Holy Spirit works, humility comes quite naturally.

---

*If you provide the voice and touch,  
the Spirit provides the power punch.*

---

It is so very easy to be used by God. If you provide the voice and touch, He provides the power punch. That is in summary the partnership: The believer provides the natural element, while the Holy Spirit provides the supernatural element. The believer provides the words and hands, while the Spirit works the needed miracle.

Your job is to speak and pray. Once you have done this, your job ends and the job of party number two—the Holy Spirit—begins. Now, what is His job? To work the miracle! The miracle may be physical healing, deliverance, a heart change or—most importantly—a realization that Jesus is Lord. Do not worry about His role; simply focus on yours.

---

*It is the job of the Holy  
Spirit to work the miracle.*

---

It is a misunderstanding of this relationship that sometimes causes Christians to shrink back from being His vessel rather than leaning into it. Take, for example, a believer who is prompted to pray for someone who is ill. Very often in that precious moment of opportunity, the devil whispers in their ear: “What if nothing happens?” This question strikes fear and doubt into the heart of the believer and they retreat, too anxious to lay hands on anybody.

Believers need to understand that their responsibility is only to lay on hands and pray a simple prayer, throwing whatever faith they have into it, big or small. What happens or does not happen after that is not their concern. It is the job of the Holy Spirit to work the miracle. The concern is His—and His alone!

## PRIDEFUL OR PITIFUL

Several years ago, South Africa hosted the Soccer World Cup. The entire nation was caught up in the excitement, sport enthusiast and novice alike. My husband and I attended a few matches and often sat right behind the goal posts. I remember watching the goalkeeper with avid interest. While the other players scurried about the field, he watched and waited for the action to come his way. If his team was stronger than the other, he did not see much action at all. If his team was the weaker one, he was under immense pressure, working harder than any of his teammates.

Suppose this dear goalkeeper decided in the middle of a match that he was sick and tired of being a goalkeeper. Suppose he stripped off his gloves, left his station and fled the field in frustration, or ran after the ball himself? Certainly, this would result in disastrous consequences for the whole team! Let this picture settle in your head, as this is exactly what happens when you and I try and fulfill a role that was never meant to be ours, or abandon our role altogether. The consequence of this is that the team consisting of the Spirit and the believer loses—and the devil wins!

Some believers invite tragedy by trying to be the miracle-worker themselves. The Holy Spirit is the Power-Carrier. He is the Miracle-Worker. We are His mouth and hands. We speak, He acts. We pray, He moves. Unfortunately, there are men and women who strut about as if the power was theirs.

The power is not ours. The power is His and our confidence is in Him!

In Acts 8 (NKJV), we read about Simon the sorcerer. “This man is the great power of God,” people professed about him (v. 10). Note the difference between someone who is a vessel through which the power of God flows versus someone claiming that this power is theirs. Simon clearly did the latter: Verse 9 tells us that he claimed to be someone great.

---

*The power is not ours. The power is  
His and our confidence is in Him!*

---

Obviously, the people were deceived by thinking that Simon was moving in the power of God. Rather, he was tapping in to the demonic. No witchcraft is from God, regardless of how innocent or positive it may seem. Happily, Simon was converted through the preaching of Philip. After he had accepted Jesus as Savior, he witnessed the apostles praying for people to be baptized with the Holy Spirit:

*When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. “Let me have this power, too,” he exclaimed, “so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!”*

– Acts 8:18–19, NLT

“Let me have this power,” Simon said. We can see that Simon did not understand that the believer does not possess the Holy Spirit; rather, the Spirit possesses the believer. Being baptized in the Spirit is described on numerous occasions in Scripture as a gift. Peter even does so in verse 20: “But Peter said to him, ‘Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!’” Receiving the gift does not result in us possessing the gift, but rather in the gift possessing us. The Spirit is in charge. We must simply cooperate with Him.

---

*The believer does not possess the Holy Spirit;  
rather, the Spirit possesses the believer.*

---

Now, there are other believers who, while they are not arrogant enough to think the power is theirs, fall dreadfully short in the cooperation department. These are the believers who—if we revert back to our goalkeeper example—would flee the field, too scared or overwhelmed to participate at all. These dear saints are likewise in error. I do not know what is worse: being arrogant enough to try and own divine power or being selfish enough not to let the Spirit flow through one at all. Either route should be avoided. Either route grieves God’s heart. Our Lord does not delight in the proud. He should get the glory, always. As we know, this world is in desperate need of the Gospel message and we are the chosen deliverers.

There is no backup plan—the team of Spirit and believer is the only plan.

Peter and John are fantastic examples of how Spirit-filled vessels should behave. The healing of the lame man on the Temple steps in Acts 3 is a well-known story. Lame from the womb, the man was over 40 years old. The two apostles called on the Name of Jesus, and a mighty miracle manifested. The man begins walking, leaping and praising God. Naturally, this attracted some attention! Peter had the following to say to the bystanders:

*Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?*

– Acts 3:12, NKJV

He then continues by preaching the Gospel to them, declaring about Jesus, “By faith in his name, his name has made this man strong, whom you see and know” (v. 16, CSB). Peter directs all the attention back to the Savior of this world, taking none for himself.

# DISCUSSION POINTS

---

*1. The Holy Spirit is our partner in the miraculous. We are His teammate, His co-laborer.*

---

How does it make you feel, knowing that you and God are co-witnesses, working together in the harvest field? Does it make you feel more confident?

---

*2. A non-witnessing believer is an unhappy believer.*

---

Do you feel unfulfilled? Could not witnessing play a role in this sense of unfulfillment?

---

*3. In order for a team to be victorious, the players must understand what their duties are and then go about fulfilling them as best they can.*

---

In this chapter, the examples of cricket and soccer are used. Think of other examples in sport or business that communicate the importance of each team member needing to do their part wholeheartedly for the team to succeed.

*4. Do not worry about His role; simply  
focus on yours.*

---

What do you understand your role to be  
and what do you understand the role  
of the Holy Spirit to be?

---

*5. The power is not ours; we are merely the  
power carriers, the wiring through  
which He moves.*

---

How does this truth help you guard against  
arrogance, when God uses you to save,  
heal or deliver someone?

# ACTION STEPS

1. Meditate on the marvelous truth that the Holy Spirit is your teammate. Imagine Him wrapping Himself around your words and setting them ablaze, turning them into mighty arrows of deliverance. Imagine praying for someone in the name of Jesus and the Holy Spirit moving through you, His fire burning up sickness and snapping chains of bondage.

2. Speak to someone about Jesus. If you have never done this before, start small. Maybe you can say, “Jesus loves you, have a great day!” to the cashier, the next time you buy groceries (remember to make eye contact and smile). If you go out for a meal, write “Jesus loves you!” on the bill and give your server a great tip. Invite a friend, client or work colleague to church. The important thing is to start becoming comfortable with sharing your faith—even if that just involves a few words for now—with those you do not necessarily know are Christian. Soon, it will become second nature. Later in this book, I explain how to share the Gospel, simply and clearly. You can also add the person to whom you have spoken to your prayer list and pray that the Lord would continue using your words to reveal Himself to them.

3. Pray for someone in the name of Jesus. Perhaps, a family member is ill or a work colleague mentions they are struggling with a health issue. Offer to pray for them. Maybe, a fellow student shares their concern about a sick loved one. Offer to pray with them for that loved one. Once again, the important thing is to start becoming comfortable with praying for someone in the name of Jesus. Remember, what happens or does not happen is not your concern. It is the job of the Holy Spirit to work the miracle. You just focus on your job—which is to lay on hands and pray!

# DECLARATIONS

*The Holy Spirit is my partner in the miraculous!*

*I provide the voice and touch,  
the Spirit provides the power punch!*

*The Spirit sets my words ablaze with saving power.*

*The Spirit moves through my hands with healing power.*

