

# The Holy Spirit's Involvement in the Early Church



**Acts 1:8-14, 2:1-5**

- **Review: The Refreshing of the Holy Spirit**
- **The Holy Spirit is indispensable. He is the most important person in the earth. His voice is the most important voice in the earth that every believer must know.**
- **The Holy Spirit's work in the life of believers assisting them in accomplishing God's Kingdom Agenda for their lives.**
- **Purpose – to make us aware of the Holy Spirit's involvement in our daily lives. To help us become sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit leading and direction for our lives.**
- **Goal – to strengthen our relationship with the Holy Spirit so that our life and our witness will glorify Jesus Christ.**

○ **Lesson Taught:**

**1. The Holy Spirit's Involvement In Jesus Christ's Life (Luke 1:26-47)**

- **Jesus Christ's birth. (Luke 1:26-47)**
- **Jesus Christ's baptism. (Luke 3:16-23)**
- **Jesus Christ was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted for forty days by the devil. (Luke 4:1-14)**
- **Jesus Christ was anointed by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Luke 4:16-22, Acts 10:34-38, Isaiah 61:1-2)**
- **Jesus Christ cast out demons by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 12:22-28)**
- **Jesus Christ was resurrected by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:9-11)**
- **The same resurrecting Holy Spirit power that raised Jesus from the dead – as a born-again believer now lives within us and He will give life to our mortal bodies.**

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## Acts 1:8-14, 2:1-5

- A. In Luke 24:44-53, Jesus reminds His disciples that everything that was spoken to them while He was with them – that everything written about Him in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms in the Old Testament had to be fulfilled.
1. During the three years of Jesus' earthly ministry, He shares with His disciples of the things that He must suffer, yet they did not understand. (Luke 8:32, 9:22, 9:41, 17:25, 18:31-34, 22:51)
  2. Jesus Christ opens their understanding in order to give them insight about what was revealed in the Old Testament about Him.
    - That which was written concerning Him would be fulfilled.
    - That He was the One who was sent to fulfill God's purpose on the earth.
    - That His suffering was the prophetic fulfillment of Scripture.
    - That the Scriptures would be fulfilled and they would be fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
  3. Jesus opens their understanding in order to give them insight of His redemptive ministry.
  4. Jesus wanted His disciples to understand Three (3) important things about the Scripture and prophecies:
    - That He must suffer. (Psalm 22:1-21, Isaiah 53:1-9)
    - That He must rise again from the dead the third day. (Psalm 16:10, Jonah 1:17, Hosea 6:2)
    - That repentance and remission of sins should be preached. All who believe on the name of Jesus Christ shall be forgiven of all their sins.
- (vs. 48-49) – “And you are witnesses of these things.” <sup>49</sup>Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”
1. The disciples were witnesses of Jesus and His resurrection.
  2. The disciples were to go and proclaim the good news to all nations (Christ's glorious message of salvation and redemption.)

3. The disciples were to wait in Jerusalem to be endued with the Holy Spirit and power. Jesus' instruction for them was simple and clear.

B. Following the earthly ministry of Jesus, something amazing happens when He ascended to heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Father.

- Christ sent the Holy Spirit, the Third person of the Godhead, to be actively involved in the life of believers.
- The Holy Spirit's function in the life of believers is essential to God's Kingdom Agenda being worked out in the earth.
- Before the Cross – Jesus Christ was very intentional in His teaching and about the ministry of the Holy Spirit. (John 7:37-39)
- (John 14:16-17) – “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever.
- (vs. 16) – Jesus says, “and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever.”
- The Greek meaning for the word “another” means “another of the same kind”.
- The Greek meaning for the word “Helper” means advocate or counselor. It also means to come alongside someone or called to come to one's aid.
- The Holy Spirit divinely operates as another Helper or Counselor. God will still be with them in the person of God the Holy Spirit.

C. Clearly, the disciples had grown accustomed to Jesus' presence and His teaching, that even the very thought of Him going away was very concerning to them. (vs. 17)

- (vs. 17) – Jesus says, “the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”
1. Jesus Christ's words are meant to bring comfort and assurance to His disciples – that He will send “another” Helper or Counselor.
  2. Jesus knew that His earthly ministry would soon come to an end – He would be returning to His Heavenly Father to sit upon His Throne in heaven.

**3. Jesus knew the Holy Spirit will now empower the disciples and all believers to do greater works for the Kingdom of God.**

**○ The Holy Spirit's Involvement in The Early Church. (Acts 2:4)**

**1. The fulfillment of the Promised Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:4)**

**2. The Holy Spirit's outpouring was the fulfillment of the Prophecy in Joel. (Joel 2:28-32)**

**3. The Holy Spirit empowered Peter to stand up and preach with boldness and authority. (Acts 2:32-43, 4:31)**

**4. The Holy Spirit was lied to by Ananias and his wife Sapphira. (Acts 5:1-11)**

**5. The Holy Spirit was essential to the life the Apostles and the disciples who would serve in leadership alongside them. (Acts 6:1-7)**

**6. The Holy Spirit uses Peter and John to pray and lay hands on the Samaritans that believed the preached Word of God so that they would receive the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:14-17)**

**7. The Holy Spirit gives Philip direction to share the gospel to the eunuch, a high official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. (Acts 8:26-39) \*Be open to the Holy Spirit's prompting or leading.**

**8. The Holy Spirit sends a disciple named Ananias to go and lay hands on Saul/Paul that he may receive his sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 9:1-17)**

**9. The Holy Spirit uses Peter to preach the gospel to the Gentiles and while he was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. (Acts 10:34-48)**

**D. Eight Things the Early Church did that we also Must do as Believers.**

**1. We must depend totally upon Holy Spirit. (Acts 1:8)**

**2. We must be led and guided by the Holy Spirit. (John 16:13, Romans 8:14, Galatians 5:18)**

**3. We must be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. (Act 16:1-6)**

**4. We must allow the Holy Spirit and the Word of God to conform us into the image of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 3:18)**

**5. We must walk in the Spirit. (Galatians 5:16, 5:25)**

6. We must walk in unity and peace with other believers (Ephesians 4:3)
7. We must bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-26, Ephesians 5:9)
8. We must separate ourselves from the world. (2 Corinthians 6:14, John 17:11, 14-15)