

Part 2: "The Gifts" Panel Discussion

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take that next step.

Read Acts 2:1-4.

This passage describes the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came and filled the early church giving them the ability to speak in tongues.

• Share your personal reactions to the gift of tongues. How did the message influence your beliefs?

Read 1 Corinthians 14: 4-5, 18, 23, 27-28.

Paul instructs us in these passages the purpose of speaking in tongues, which is designed to strengthen the person speaking and not the church.

 Why do you think speaking in tongues is such a controversial topic among believers?

Read Galatians 5:16-17 and Ephesians 5:15-18.

These scriptures tell us that we should not give into our sinful desires, but rather we should be filled with the Holy Spirit.

- How did the picture of getting drunk help expand your understanding of what a Spirit-filled life is like?
- Describe a time when you experienced being filled by the Holy Spirit. How did the experience affect your relationship with Christ?
- If you haven't had that experience yet, what do you think it would be like?

Read Galatians 5:22-26.

This passage instructs us to follow the Holy Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

- How does living a Spirit-filed life currently look in your own life? What steps can you
 take now to begin or continue to process of living a more Spirit-filed life?
- As you take your next steps towards a Spirit-filed life, what questions do you still have that you will seek out answer to?

Next Steps

Here are some specific things you can do this week to learn more about the Holy Spirit and help you experience the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Consider reading Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit. In this book, Francis Chan offers a detailed understanding of the Holy Spirit and teaches us how to embrace and follow the Holy Spirit's direction. This book is available at most bookstores and online.
- This week take time to focus on developing a more Spirit-filled life by praying and seeking a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit. Also, spend some time with someone who you feel is living a Spirit-filled life and learn from their insight and experience on how to fully experience the Holy Spirit.

Prayer tips

Use these prayer tips to guide your time with God this week to expand your conversations both in person and online.

- Pray and ask God to show you some specific ways that you can begin living a more Spirit-filled life.
- Have an honest conversation with God seeking answers to the questions you have about how to live a Spirit-filled life.
- Ask God to show those areas of your life that are keeping you from having a Spirit-filled life. Commit to working on those areas.
- Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit and for all He has done in your life and will continue to do.
- Pray for those you know and love that they will begin to experience a more Spiritfilled life.