



DECIDED

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

The D-Cycle is a curriculum containing content designed to establish the scriptural foundations of the faith in the life of a believer.

VISION FOR BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the fourth point in the Decided portion of the D-Cycle. Baptism of the Holy Spirit is an event in which a believer is immersed in the Spirit of God for the purpose of powerful and effective ministry. The Baptism of the Spirit is more than a one time event; believers are exhorted to continually be filled with the Spirit.

Key Definitions

- **Baptism of the Holy Spirit:** the immersion of the believer in the Spirit of God for the purpose of demonstrating the power of Gospel and advancing the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.
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HEAD

Summary of Points

1. **When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to demonstrate the power and truth of the Gospel through signs and wonders. This will testify to Jesus, with the goal of the lost being saved and the Kingdom of God advancing.**

This power can be in the form of boldness, tongues, prophecy, or other signs and wonders. The purpose is always glorifying Jesus — not intentionally bringing attention to ourselves.

2. **When we put our trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit came to live in our hearts, making us a temple of God.**

Like the temple in the Old Testament, God's presence lives in our hearts. God is with us, and is an assurance that we will receive eternal life when the final judgment comes.

3. **The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a unique experience from salvation but can occur at the same time.**

Jesus was "born of the Spirit" at conception (Luke 2:26-38), and He was baptized in the Holy Spirit when the Spirit descended upon Him like a dove at His baptism (Luke 3:21-22; 4:1, 14, 18-19). The same is true for us. We are "born of the Spirit" when we receive Christ at salvation (John 3:5-6; John 20:22; Ephesians 1:13-14) but are baptized in the Spirit (Acts 1:8, Acts 2; Acts 19:1-7) when the Spirit "comes upon" us in power.

4. **The Baptism of the Holy Spirit often requires hunger and whole-hearted desire.**

God responds to those who earnestly seek Him. All throughout Scripture, we see that God is looking to support those whose hearts are fully his and who want to know him. (Matthew 5:6, Luke 11:5-13, James 1:7-8).

5. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not limited to a one-time event. Believers we are exhorted to “be continually filled” with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18; John 20:22; Acts 2:4, 4:31).
6. Holy Spirit gives gifts to us to serve the church and extend the Kingdom of God. These gifts are abilities that are empowered by God. (1 Corinthians 12:1-8).

Lifegroup Scriptures

Baptism at Pentecost

Acts 1:1-11, Acts 2

Disciples Receive Holy Spirit at Salvation

John 20:19-23

D-Group Scriptures

Ephesian Disciples

Acts 19:1-7

Constantly Filled

Ephesians 5:15-21

Jesus as the Baptizer in the Spirit

Matthew 3:11

Discussion Methods

Below are two suggested methods for discussing Scripture.

Traditional DBS New Testament Letters	Inductive Bible Study Gospels, Acts, Old Testament Accounts
1. What does this say about God?	1. Observation – What happened?
2. What does this say about me/people?	2. Interpretation – What does it mean?
3. What is my obedient response?	3. Application – How can I obey?

HEART

Questions

1. What obstacles in your life (if any) would prevent you from being baptized in the Holy Spirit?
2. What are you hungering for more than the Holy Spirit and His presence?
3. How do you walk in a life of continually being filled with the Holy Spirit?
4. How does unbelief or apathy keep you from being filled with the Spirit?

Lifegroup content ends here

HANDS

Discipleship Actions

1. Confess any sins or reluctance to yield to the Holy Spirit and His influence.
 2. Ask others in your community who are filled with the Spirit to lay hands on you and pray for the baptism of the Spirit.
 3. Consider fasting food or abstaining from social media to pray and break off passivity or double mindedness.
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RESOURCES

Books

- [A Handbook on the Holy Spirit Baptism](#) – Don Basham
- [Surprised by the Power of the Spirit](#) – Jack Deere
- [Baptized in the Spirit](#) – Randy Clark

Articles

- [What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?](#) – John Piper