

The Great Commission Missionary Institute

The Great Commission Missionary Institute is a practical instrument of Baptist associations, fellowships or churches to enlist and train large numbers of dedicated Christian workers to disciple and evangelize the unchurched people of their community and to open new work in unchurched communities.

Required Courses	Classes	Hours
Missions	<i>The Great Commission Is Personal</i>	6
Personal Ministry	<i>Your Little Flock Ministry</i>	6
Disciple Making	<i>Teach to Save Lives</i>	8
Discipleship	<i>First Steps in Christian Discipleship</i>	8
Church Planting, Growth	<i>The Church on the March</i>	9
Spiritual Basis of Ministry	<i>Spiritual Power</i>	6
Pastoral Leadership	<i>The Pastor God Uses</i>	6
Pastoral Ministry	<i>Pastoral Ministries in the Church*</i>	6
Biblical Homiletics	<i>Preach the Word</i>	10
Biblical Homiletics	<i>Dramatic Preaching, Stories of the Bible</i>	12
Christian Doctrine	<i>Doctrines of the Bible*</i>	12
Family	<i>Ministry to Families*</i>	9
Christian Leadership	<i>Dynamic Spiritual Leadership</i>	6
Christian Stewardship	<i>Your Prosperity Pleases God</i>	6
Elective Courses	(Listed separately)	12
Total hours:		120

Certificates Offered

Certificate of Study First 60 hours
 Diploma of Missionary Preparation Final 60 hours



SPIRITUAL POWER

*Experiencing the Fullness
of God's Spirit*

GREAT COMMISSION MISSIONARY INSTITUTE



"Every Community on Earth Deserves a New Testament Church"



INTRODUCTION

God's Fullness in Your Life

God wants something special for each one of his children, beginning with you. He desires, as wrote the Apostle John, ***“that your joy be full”*** (1 John 1:4).

The Psalmist David testified, ***“my cup overflows”*** (Psalm 23:5). Not only full, but *overflowing*. Jesus said of each of his own, ***“rivers of living water will flow from within them”*** (John 7:38-39).

There is abundant Scriptural evidence that every Christian has the Holy Spirit. To the carnal Christians of Corinth, Paul exclaimed, ***“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own”*** (1 Corinthians 6:19).

Even the carnal Christians have to admit they do not have the fullness of God in their lives, that the rivers of living water have almost dried up, and that their cup is not even half full. The Spirit's fruit in their lives is scarce. They have little love, joy is only occasional, peace escapes them when they most need it, patience is short, etc., etc.

Some will defend themselves saying that they remain faithful to their church and to “God's work.” If you are one of these people, perhaps you might say that you work until you are worn out, that you may feel that you are the last faithful believer and yet all your efforts have produced little fruit. You are exhausted, burdened with worries, pressures and frustrations. Your cup is not running over and you feel a dangerous emptiness in your soul.

What does the Bible say about your need? ***“Be filled with the Spirit”*** (Ephesians 5:18). Be filled? Yes, that the rivers of living water flow fully and with power. That your cup run over, not only for your benefit, but also for the blessing of many others. That the same Holy Spirit produce fruit in your life, beautiful, rich, and abundant fruit.

Is that what you want? If not, this study is not for you, lay it aside now. If you profoundly desire God's fullness in your life, cost what it may (and, yes, it will cost you much), continue studying. This will be for you much more than a study. It will be a profound life experience.

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Textbook of the Great Commission Missionary Institute

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First Study

God's Purpose in Filling You With His Holy Spirit



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Only after thirty years, after the Holy Spirit came upon him at his baptism, Jesus was able to declare, ***"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor..."*** (Luke 4:18a).

Jesus was the Messiah, the Savior of the world, the divine and eternal Son of God. He had been engendered by the Holy Spirit. Nevertheless, he needed the anointing of God, he needed the Holy Spirit to be on him.

Why did he need this anointing of the Holy Spirit? For the simple reason that Jesus, as man, proposed to do his ministry not in his own power, but rather in the power of the Holy spirit. Peter testified, ***"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power and... he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him"*** (Acts 10:38).

All Christ's ministry was done in the power of God, in the very power of His Holy Spirit, and not simply in his human power. For this reason, Jesus said, ***"Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."*** (John 5:19).

Jesus received the unction of the Holy Spirit upon his baptism in the river Jordan, and promised the Apostles that the church would receive power when he promised, ***"You will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit _____, and you will be my _____"*** (Acts 1:8a).

The book of Acts explodes with the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the believers. Paul testified, ***"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us _____, love, and self-discipline"*** (2 Timothy 1:7). Acts 4:33 declares, ***"With great _____ the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's _____ was so powerfully at work in them all."***

We note four things:

1. God's servant people should be filled with the Spirit. For this reason, the Word of God commands us, ***"be filled with the Spirit"*** (Ephesians 5:18b).

2. We need to be full of the Holy Spirit to experience the power of God in our lives. ***"You will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you"*** (Acts 1:8a).



3. The power of God's Spirit enables us to be true witnesses of the love of Jesus. ***"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses."*** This is not a command, but a promise. It does not say, "Be my witnesses." It is, instead, a prophecy: ***"You will be my witnesses."*** It is a normal result of the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

4. The Spirit's fullness is for every believer. God wants us all to be full of His Holy Spirit. For this reason He commands, ***"Be filled with the Spirit."*** God never asks the impossible or that which cannot be expected. Never doubt that Christ included us when he said, ***"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit is on you."***

The filling and power of the Holy Spirit will be the experience of every believer who will pay the necessary price and will make the necessary preparation. ***"And my God will meet all your _____ according to the _____ of his glory in Christ Jesus."*** (Philippians 4:19).

If you are not already enjoying the fullness of the Holy Spirit, is God able to supply that need? Will He do it? The Bible assures you that He ***"shall supply"*** all your needs.

The rest of this study will be a spiritual pilgrimage for you. At last, you should reach a new peak in your spiritual life. You will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit if you are willing to subject yourself to the discipline that God will reveal to you in these pages.

But, before climbing the sublime heights, you will have to descend into the dark depths of the soul. You will need to look in the nooks and crannies of your soul for every sin and offense against God. Why?


Paul exclaimed, ***Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? (Romans 8:35)*** "NO!" he answers. Only one thing separates us from him. ***But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you that he will not hear (Isaiah 59:2, KJV).***

Therefore, we must begin with the issue of sin.

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear (Isaiah 59:2).

**Isaiah
59:2**

RESENTMENTS	LIES	CRITICISM	PRIDE
TEMPER	ENVY	FALSE ACCUSATIONS	FORGOTTEN DEBTS
ADULTERY	JOKES	MUTTERING	PORNOGRAPHY
JEALOUSY	DISHONESTY	COLDNESS	FEAR
FILTHY TALK	FORNICATION	MOODINESS	
ANGUISH	INDIFFERENCE	HYPOCRISY	THEFT
STEAL TITHE	FAITHLESSNESS TO GOD	INCOGNIZABLE	
VANITY	HATRED	PREJUDICE	
BITTERNESS	BAD FRIENDSHIPS	IMPATIENCE	
ARGUMENTATIVE	LORD'S NAME IN VAIN	DIVISION	




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Second Study

The Sin Barrier in the Spiritual Life

The *natural man* is that person who has never been pardoned nor freed of his or her sins. When one dies in this state, the person dies in his or her own sins and will suffer eternally because of them (Revelation 21:8).



The *Christian* is that person who has repented of his or her sins and has taken Christ by faith as Savior (Luke 13:3, John 1:12). Even so, it must be admitted that many Christians, though forgiven of their sins, continue to live failed lives because of sin. Are you living a victorious life over sin? Use the following study to see yourself in the divine mirror, the Word of God.

I. Man Is a Sinner By Nature

1. Romans 3:10 **As it is written: There is _____ righteous, not even _____.**
2. Jeremiah 17:9 **The heart is _____ above all things, and beyond _____.**

II. Man Is a Sinner in His Conduct

1. Romans 3:23 **For all _____ and fall short of the glory of God.**
2. All have disobeyed the command of God:
 - (1) The greatest commandment (Mark 12:30) **Love the Lord your God with all your h _____ and with all your s _____ and with all your m _____ and with all your s _____.**
 - (2) The second (Mark 12:31) **L _____ your neighbor as _____.**
 - (3) Completely forgive those who have done wrong to you. Mark 11:25 **And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven _____.**
 - (4) Colossians 3:9 **Do not _____ to each other...**
 - (5) Exodus 20:14 **Do not commit a _____.**
 - (6) Exodus 20:15 **You shall not s _____.**
 - (7) Sins of the tongue. James 3:6 **The tongue also is a f _____, a world of e _____ among the parts of the body. It c _____ the w _____ b _____, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.**

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. Slanderous | e. using God's name in vain |
| b. Arguments | f. suggestive or filthy comments |
| c. Criticism | g. ridiculing others, nicknames |
| d. Filthy expressions | |

III. Man Is a Sinner in His Thoughts

1. Pridefulness. (Galatians 5:26) **...not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.**
2. Hatred. (1 John 3:15) **Anyone who hates his brother is a _____.**
3. Lust. (Matthew 5:28) **Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed a _____ with her in his heart.**
4. Money driven. (1 Timothy 6:10, KJV) **For the l _____ of money is the root of all e _____.**
5. Pretentiousness. (Matthew 6:2) **When you give... do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others.**
6. Self-centered. (2 Timothy 3:4) **treacherous, rash, conceited...**
7. Reject Jesus Christ. (John 3:36b) **Whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.**

Underline the sins you find in yourSELF.

The study, up to this point, has cut through the coarsest of sins with a dull blade. An unknown Christian writer gives us a surgical knife to cut away at secret sins of the heart, hardly even noticed by us, but offensive to our Lord. We invite his comments to conclude our study of sin.

Not I, But Christ
Unknown Author

Following are some of the manners and manifestations of the life which is dominated by "I", the sinful ego. Only the Holy Spirit can interpret this and apply it to your personal situation. As you read, examine yourself as if you were in the very presence of God.

Have you ever felt:

A secret sense of pride. . . .

- A sense of being puffed up in view of your success or position,
- Because of your good training or your favorable appearance,
- Because of your gifts and natural abilities?
- An independent and important spirit?

- Love for human praise, a secret desire to be taken notice of,
- Love of superiority,
- A pleasure when you speak of yourself in conversations,



Vain self-satisfaction when you have spoken,
Prayed or preached with liberty?

A feeling of anger or impatience
Which you have called nervousness or holy indignation,
A touchy spirit, a disposition to feel resentments,
And to use reprisals when contradicted or disapproved of?

Obstinacy, with a difficult and headstrong spirit unable to learn,
An argumentative spirit, using hard or sarcastic expressions,
A stubborn disposition, a dominating spirit,
A disposition to criticize and find fault in others,
A bad intentioned spirit, irritable, easily bothered,
A spirit that requires that you be begged.

Carnal fear, a sense of fear of people;
A tendency to escape duty or reproach,
A resentment of superior authorities,
A spirit of moral compromise.

A jealous disposition,
A secret spirit of envy deep in your heart,
A disagreeable spirit on seeing the great prosperity or success of
Another person? A disposition to speak of the faults or
Weaknesses of those who are more gifted or appreciated
Than you?

A dishonest and deceitful disposition, avoiding and hiding the truth,
Hiding your real faults, making a better impression of yourself than
Is the real truth, a false humility, exaggeration, deceiving with
Half truths?

Unbelief, a depressed spirit in times of pressure and opposition,
Lack of confidence in God, a lack of faith and expectation in God,
A disposition to worry and complain because of pain, poverty or
The dispositions of Divine Providence, an anxious feeling
Whether all will turn out well or not?

A lukewarm and dead spirit, lack of compassion for lost souls,
Dryness and indifference, lacking God's power in your life,
Ego-centrism, love of comfort, love of money?

These are some of the characteristics of the carnal heart. Through prayer, open your heart to the light of God until you can clearly see what you are in His holy presence. **Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting (Psalm 139:23-24).**

The Holy Spirit will help you through your faith and continued confession of sin to carry the life of the ego, the "big I" to death. Do not excuse yourself or cover over anything, but test the depths of your soul. That is the only path to victory.

**Oh, to be saved from mySELF, Lord,
Oh, to lose mySELF in thee,
Oh, that it be no longer I, Lord,
But Christ Who lives in me.**

On a separate sheet of paper, write a secret but completely honest list of the sins you still find in you life and which have you weakened and frustrated in your spiritual life. Do not share this list with anyone. The teacher will later indicate how you will destroy it.

TIME FOR REFLECTION

I know that the Bible says, ***But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear (Isaiah 59:2).***

I recognize that a clean life, controlled by the Holy Spirit, is altogether necessary to have an abundant and victorious life, and that my testimony might be effective before the world. Therefore, I will examine my own life and confess all my sins unto God, knowing ***If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9).*** For this reason, to make my decision most meaningful and true, I will write on a separate sheet of paper the sins that I recognize remain in my life and need the forgiveness and purifying of God. I include in this list offenses to others and indebtedness for which I will seek forgiveness and make restitution.

After confessing my sins to God in prayer, I accept the forgiveness that He promises and offers to me. I surrender my life to be an instrument in the hands of God and with all my heart I subject myself to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.



Third Study

The Consequences of Sin In the Christian's Life

Satan has deceived many of God's children, leading them to believe that it is normal for a Christian to continue to tolerate and live with sin. He has hidden from view the great tragedy of sin in the lives of Christians. Very briefly, see what the practical effects of sin are in the life of the careless or disobedient Christian.



I. Sin Creates a Barrier Between God and His People.

1. Isaiah 59:2 declares, **Your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.**
2. Ephesians 4:30 The Holy Spirit who sealed us for the day of redemption is grieved.
3. Christ is dethroned in the heart and the "old man" reasserts his authority over one's life.
4. Ephesians 4:27 A foothold has been given to the devil, making it easier for him to bring on further and more terrible spiritual defeats.

II. Sin Destroys the Harvest of the Fruit of the Spirit in the Life of the Christian.

Read Galatians 5:22-23.

1. The first thing mentioned is love, which grows cold.
2. The carnal Christian loses joy and peace, enduring a life which seems tasteless.
3. He or she has little peace for family, members of the church, and even for self.
4. Knowledge and grace are in much shorter supply.
5. One begins to vacillate in his or her faith.
6. This person is no longer noted for good works and service.

III. Other Consequences of Sin in the Christian's Life.

1. Prayer becomes cold and useless. Proverbs 28:9 states: **If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable.**
2. The Word of God loses its good "flavor" and the Christian ceases to delight in it. Reading it becomes a tasteless task and one no longer says **How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!** (Psalm 119:103).

3. There is no real passion for souls.

4. One's testimony becomes dull and lifeless.

5. The "work" of God becomes heavy and without pleasure. "God's work" causes physical and mental exhaustion and the worker becomes discouraged, distraught and defeated.

6. Isaiah 40:31 loses its meaning in life: **Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.**

7. Lacking God's leadership in one's life, serious errors will be made, even regarding the major decisions of one's life.

SELF-EXAMINATION

Are any of the comments given above a description of your life at this point of time?

Yes No

If you marked the "Yes" God offers you His solution. **If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36.** This freedom will come through God's full cleansing and powerful renewal of your Spiritual life. It will come from your agreeing with God what your sins are, asking Him to forgive you, and to be pardoned and completely cleansed.

On a separate sheet of paper, you should have made a list of sins you find in your heart and life. Complete it now. The list will later be destroyed, but its greatest value will be in your sincere effort to bring these matters straight to the Lord where He can deal with them once and for all.

Fourth Study

The Three States of Mankind

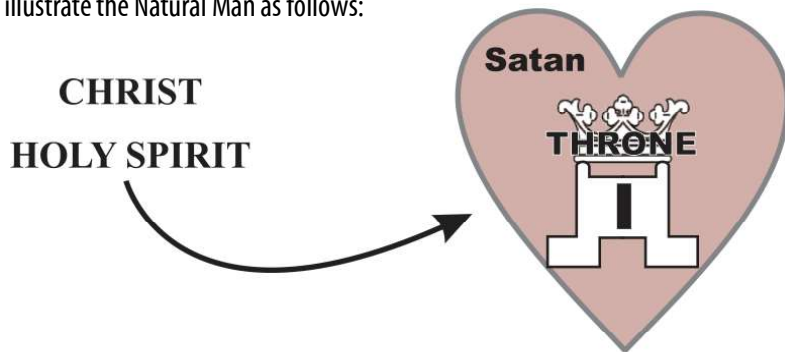
The Bible speaks of mankind in terms of three different conditions: the natural man, the carnal Christian, and the spiritual Christian. Study these now:



I. The Natural Man (the Man Without the Spirit) 1 Corinthians 2:14

The natural man is that child, youth, man or woman who has never received Christ as Lord and Savior and lives without the regeneration brought about by the Holy Spirit. They are **dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient (Ephesians 2:1-2)**. Christ, by means of His Spirit, reprimands them, but they have not yet chosen to turn from their sins or to receive Christ as Lord and Savior.

We illustrate the Natural Man as follows:



Note that the ego, the "big I" is firmly on the throne of his or her life. The natural man does his own will, what comes naturally to him. Satan lives within his heart, deceiving him, slowly destroying him, while Jesus remains outside. The natural man is dead within, having only been born of the flesh. His heart is darkened. The Holy Spirit of Christ has not abandoned him, but seeks to awaken him and to lead him to let Christ into his heart and life (Revelation 3:20).

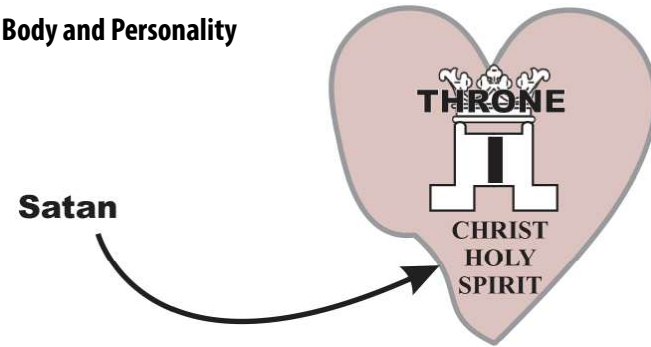
II. The Carnal (Worldly) Christian 1 Corinthians 3:1

There is a great difference between the natural man and the carnal or worldly Christian. The carnal Christian has Christ in his life, and belongs to Christ (1 Corinthians 3:23). He has been justified of his sin by the death of Jesus, his Savior, on the cross. He has eternal life through his Spiritual birth but he lives with a great conflict in his heart and soul. The

"big I" occupies the throne of his life, reserving daily decisions in life for self and denying the complete lordship of Christ. He will still say "Jesus is Lord" but he denies this reality constantly by personal decisions based on self-interest.

The Carnal Christian Is Illustrated as follows:

His or Her Body and Personality



Yes, Christ is in his life, but not in the most privileged place. His life is ruled by his big I, and the carnal Christian suffers a constant struggle between his will and the will of God. He does not have spiritual power because he continues to offend God with his willfulness and he saddens the Holy Spirit within him. This, in turn, saddens the spirit of the Christian. He is out of sorts with God.

He is not filled with the Holy Spirit. For this reason, he is weak against the appeals and attacks of Satan. He suffers constant defeats at his hands. He does not produce quality fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) but is often found doing the works of the flesh (See Galatians 5:19-21).

Paul illustrates the problem of the worldly or carnal Christian in 1 Corinthians 2:15-3-4.

1. The carnal Christian is a spiritual baby. To the worldly Christians of Corinth, Paul wrote, **I gave you milk, not solid food, for you are not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly** (1 Corinthians 3:2-3). The carnal Christians are not growing in their spiritual lives, but act spiritually like little children. They cannot take solid food.

2. The carnal Christian has a party spirit, even within the church. **For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere human beings?** (1 Corinthians 3:4).

3. The carnal Christian is not able to clearly distinguish between what is good and what is bad. In contrast, the spiritual Christian judges well in all things because, says Paul, **But we have the mind of Christ** (1 Corinthians 2:16b).

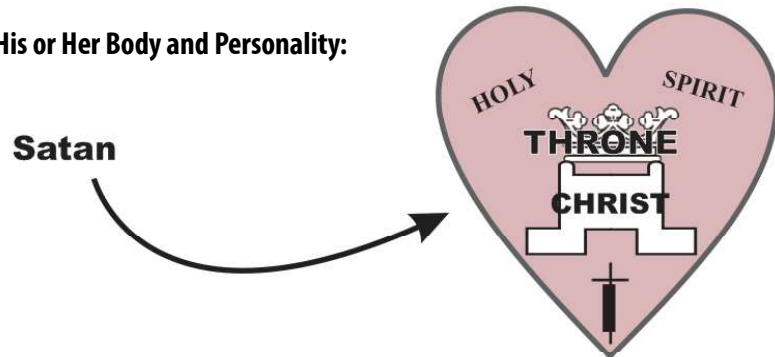
III. The Spiritual Christian



The Spiritual Christian is that person whose life is victorious in every sense. However, it is not really his or her life, but the life of Jesus who is victorious in him or her. The Spiritual Christian has let his big I take its rightful place on the cross, hanging there every day. **Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me (Luke 9:23).** He lives by faith, counting himself as dead but Christ alive in him. Christ occupies his throne with undisputed authority over every detail of life. The Spiritual Christian is full of the Holy Spirit, and is an uncluttered channel of the love and power of God in his life.

The Spiritual Christian is illustrated as follows:

His or Her Body and Personality:



The Spiritual Christian is called that because he or she is filled with the Holy Spirit. He fulfills the Biblical command found in Ephesians 5:18, **“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery, instead, be filled with the Spirit.”**

Paul testifies to his own spiritual condition when he writes in Galatians 2:20: **I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.**

Satan continues with his attacks, but cannot penetrate the defenses as long as the big I remains crucified, Christ remains on the throne, and the Holy Spirit is filling the life. God Himself is between Satan and the Christian.



Fifth Study

How To Receive the Fullness of the Holy Spirit



After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. Acts 4:31

Following are four spiritual steps to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in your life:

I. You must humble yourself in prayer and confess all your sins, settling accounts with the Lord and with others and turn your back upon sin.

(1) **If we confess our sins... (1 John 1:9a).** This is your responsibility. Do not do it in general terms, but bring to God your carefully made list, bringing God's pardon up to date. Confess your sin to those it has affected, ask pardon where it is needed, and testify to the pardon and cleansing of the Lord.

(2) **He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9b).**

The Lord responds, cancelling our sin debt and forgiving all the sin we have confessed. And he does more, he does what you could never do: He purifies, cleanses us from all sin.

Now, you are in condition for God to work miracles in and through your life, filling you with his Spirit.

II. You must take for yourself the place of death, counting yourself as dead.

There is nothing else you can do with the big I. "I", also known as "the flesh" or "the sinful nature" **does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so (Romans 8:7).** The flesh cannot dedicate itself to God nor reform itself to do God's will. One can only take the old nature to the cross of Christ and let it die there.

Jesus said that our ego-centric rule must die, must be denied authority or life. **Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me (Luke 9:23).** He does not offer any bargain price to be his Spirit-filled disciple.

The secret of victory is in our attitude toward our SELVES. Paul writes in Romans 6:11: **Count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.** Jesus, who lives within you, is powerfully alive in you as you count yourSELF as dead.



We see the cross in two senses of time. In its historic aspect, we see that the cross is the payment by Christ for our sins. Christ was on the cross for that purpose, and, figuratively, we were there also, because it was for our sinful lives he was dying. Daily, the cross still applies to our SELVES. **I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:20a).**

Moreover, out of death on the cross comes life. It came to Christ in his resurrection and it comes to us in his living presence within us, enabled by our direct faith in him. **The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me (Galatians 2:20b).**

II. You must enthrone Christ without any reservations, making him the Supreme Lord of your life.

Have a royal coronation service in your heart with the cry of victory, Jesus Christ is Lord! Knowing that he resides in your heart, ask him to be the omnipotent Lord of all your life. Tell him, "Lord, I surrender the throne of my life, taking the death of the cross instead. Do with me as you wish, wherever you wish, and whenever you wish. I am all yours."

IV. You must accept the fullness of the Holy Spirit by faith, and give Christ Jesus your thanks.

It is not a matter of emotion or miraculous signs that we receive the Holy Spirit, though these may follow. **Galatians 3:14** says, **"He redeemed us... so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit."** All God's provisions for us are by the same principle **by faith.** By faith you are saved (Ephesians 2:8.9). By faith you are justified (Romans 5:1). By faith you are sanctified, by faith you receive the Holy Spirit, and by faith you receive the anointing and fullness of God through His Spirit. All is by faith. So, **the just shall live by faith.**

Guidance In Your Prayer

We suggest that you not continue studying this booklet until you have taken the four spiritual steps outlined above. These steps you take in prayer with your Heavenly Father. Of course, you should only use words that truly come from your heart. The following prayer is only given to help you understand the four elements that should be included in your prayer:

Holy Father, (1) I have confessed to you all known sin and come to you in confidence of your forgiveness and cleansing. In your holy presence, (2) I take my big I, to the place of death on the cross and count myself as dead. (3) I crown Jesus as the Lord of my life, giving him alone the throne of my heart. And, (4) I receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sixth Study

Walking in the Spirit

The Bible does not only command us **Be filled with the Spirit** but adds **Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.. Galatians 5:25**

I. Consider yourself dead, but alive to God in Christ (Romans 6:11, Galatians 2:20).

This principle is simple, but it has much to do with your daily spiritual life and walk. It means the following:

1. Let God do everything.

A dead person can do nothing. But the Holy Spirit fills your body and personality so He can do much in you. Never say, "Lord, help me to do this thing." Say, "Lord, do it. If you want to use me, wonderful. If you want to use some other servant, that is also wonderful. But do it, Lord, because only you can do it."

Jesus spoke of his own ministry in John 5:19: **"Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."** If the Son of God could do nothing unless the Father Himself were doing it, can you do more than he?

There are four reasons why you must let God do everything:

- (1) Because, if you were able to do it, you and not God would receive the credit and the glory.
- (2) Because you cannot do it anyway!
- (3) Because, He will do much more and much better than you could imagine.
- (4) Because He might do it through you, through your body and personality. **Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).**

2. Do everything God wants you to do.

God will do everything, but He may choose to do much in you and through you. You will not tell Him what you will do, but you must be very attentive to do everything God wants to do through you. Jesus gave us the perfect example: **My food is to do the will of him who sent me (John 4:34).**

Jesus also said in **John 6:38: I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.**

In some respects, you are to be like a glove in which moves the hand of God. It is God that does the work, but you are not to resist using your life, your activities, your words as He chooses to do in you.

God fills you with his Holy Spirit and power so that he himself can do his great work in and through you. But if you refuse to do the will of God in your life, he will have to use another to carry out his will.

Those who want to do the full will of God in their lives not only continue with the fullness of the Holy Spirit, but they also have an intimate relationship with Jesus. He said in **Matthew 12:50 Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.**

3. Let God be the owner of everything.

Are you worried about your home, your church, your work? Stop it! The dead are the owners of nothing. Present everything to the Lord, confess that he is the exclusive owner of everything. If he is the owner, he will take good care of his possessions and you will be able to rest in him. For this reason, Hebrews 4:9-10 states, **There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God, for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from t_____ w_____.**

II. Praise the Lord with All Your Strength

Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens... Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord (Psalm 150:1, 6).

It is Christ who lives in you and it is God who does everything in your life. For this reason, dedicate your body and your personality to the glorious opportunity to praise God.

1. Praise God by singing hymns and choruses.
2. Read through your Bible, giving thanks to God for all his works and kindnesses shown in the Bible.



3. Pray with praise, with gratitude and confidence because God and only God will do it.
4. Praise Him through your spoken testimony. Tell your family, your neighbors, your family in the faith, and to those who are lost about the most recent blessings you have received from the Lord. Lamentations 3:22-23 comments **His c_____ never fail. They are n_____ every morning; great is your faithfulness.**

III. Be Careful on the Road

Being filled with the Spirit does not mean that Satan will not want to attack you. On the contrary, he will come against you with much more fury. Luke 4:1-2 relates Jesus' experience: **Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was _____ by the _____.**

You must remember two things: 1) You have no strength to be able to defend yourself from Satan, but 2) Christ lives in you and he will always defeat the devil. When temptation comes, say, "I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." As one brother once said, "When Satan knocks on your door, ask the Lord Jesus to answer."

Perhaps the greatest danger is pride, a sin that goes deeply into our being. Be careful not to cultivate "spiritual pride" in which you think yourself superior to others because of your spiritual experience. Remember that it is only by God's grace that you have received the filling of the Holy Spirit and that God wants the same for all of his children. "Spiritual pride" is one of the fastest ways you can lose the fullness of Christ's Spirit. Whenever you detect it, confess it and turn from it in great haste.

Finally, continue to obey the principles by which you received the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

1. Keep yourself in the place of prayer, confessing every sin committed, immediately when it happens, and asking people to forgive you of any offense.
2. Keep Jesus on the throne of your life, without trying to usurp his authority in any of the decisions of your life. Only he must make the decisions.
3. Always count your big I to be dead, on the cross where Christ died for your sins. Do not try to satisfy "the desires of the flesh" of your sinful SELF.
4. Continue always to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit by faith, recognizing his continuous work and blessing in your life.



CONCLUSION

Three Decisions that Will Give Direction to Your Life

A Special Fellowship: You have taken a series of decisions that sets you apart from the great majority of people, who may never understand you. Never cease to pray, work, and wait that the people in your life come to know Christ as you minister to them. You will need the fellowship of people who are likewise committed to God's will. Be a part of a special group of such people, meeting regularly with them for growth, fellowship and to fulfill the Great Commission. (We suggest the creation of ROCKs for this purpose. See the manual *MegaDiscipleship*.)

A Personal Commission: You have decided to obey the Lord in all matters. Be sure to obey the Lord in the fulfillment of the Great Commission using the ministries which He will show you. You have been saved for God's great purposes. Fulfill your commission by serving Him intentionally through a calendar of normal life activities. Dedicate yourself as much as possible to ministries outside the church building, where the majority of Christians do not think to serve.

Normal Godly Customs: Our normal customs establish the norms of our lives and simplify life, giving us peace and avoiding the need to constantly make decisions whether to do something or not. Your spiritual life needs the two daily customs of Bible reading and prayer. Set aside at least 30 minutes daily for this. Decide in prayer what should be your normal attendance to church and keep this plan without discussion or apology. Decide to trust the Lord for your financial life, and trust in Him, demonstrating your trust through giving your full tithe and your offerings. Dedicate yourself to use all your human contacts to express respect, give personal encouragement, and to testify of Christ.