



## The Gift of the Holy Spirit

May 17, 2026

Acts 2:37-39

### Introduction:

Scripture describes our receiving of the Holy Spirit as an unmerited GIFT of God's grace.

### Acts 2:37-39

"Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself".

*Through repentance and faith in Jesus, we have received the immeasurable gift of God's own Holy Spirit into our hearts and our lives.*

### The Holy Spirit is fully God:

"But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God."

**Acts 5:3-4 (See also Psalm 139:7-10)**

### The Holy Spirit is a Person:

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

**Ephesians 4:30**

"The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,"

**Romans 8:16**

*Our choices do impact our relationship with the Holy Spirit: we can grieve, quench, or resist Him. Yet, He is always working for our greater good.*



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### **The Ministry of the Holy Spirit:**

The Spirit regenerates (John 3:5-8)  
The Spirit indwells (1 Cor. 3:16-17)  
The Spirit sanctifies (Romans 8:13-17)  
The Spirit comforts (John 14:15-17)  
The Spirit teaches (John 16:13-15)  
The Spirit guides (Romans 8:13-17)  
The Spirit intercedes (Romans 8:26-30)  
The Spirit unifies (Phil. 2:1)

The Spirit bears fruit (Gal. 5:22-26)  
The Spirit gives gifts (1 Cor. 12:1-13)  
The Spirit activates and energizes worship (Ephesians 5:17-21)  
The Spirit empowers witness (Acts 1:8)

*Everything we know, and experience of God comes through the person and ministry of the Holy Spirit.*

### **“Be FILLED”**

Though all who repent and trust in Jesus receive the Holy Spirit, scripture calls us to continually seek the *filling* of the Spirit.

“*Be filled*” is a continuous repeated action, not a one time event.

“*Be filled*” is a passive command; it’s more of a yielding than an obtaining, more of an *allowing something to overtake us* than an aggressive taking hold of something.

“*Be filled*” is emptying ourselves so the Spirit can fill us.

### **“Filled with the Spirit”**

“Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well.”

**Acts 4:8 (see also Acts 4:31, 8:29, 13:9, 16:6-7, 20:22-23)**

The historical narrative of Acts is *filled* with examples of how the Spirit literally, in the moment, led the church.

We are desperate for, and dependant on, the Spirit because:

- 1. We have a God we cannot fathom on our own.**
- 2. We have a calling we cannot complete on our own.**
- 3. We have a mission we cannot fulfill on our own.**

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