



FINE ARTS

deployed february week 2

discipleship dimension: holy spirit

DIMENSION OBJECTIVE:

Seek to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.



The Perfect Will of God

Krystle Tufte

scripture

“Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 1:4–5

“And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.”

Acts 2:4

discover

Twelve years old at summer camp, I watched in rapt attention throughout the evening service as the speaker for the week and his family taught on the Holy Spirit through visual illustrations. I didn't fully understand all of what it meant, but I just felt this overwhelming desire to have whatever the Holy Spirit gave.

When the altar call came, my friends from church and I rushed down together and sat at the altar waiting for this precious gift. Our kids pastor came over to us and gave us direction to start worshipping God, to get our mouths moving as the Holy Spirit would never force us to do anything, like reach down and move our mouths for us like a puppeteer. As we started praising God and thanking Him for how good He was, I distinctly remember I sensed a bunch of jumbled words pop into my head, but I thought, "That can't be it! That's just a bunch of nonsense. The people around me will think I'm crazy if I start speaking that out." But as my pastor knelt beside me praying over me, he said, "Just speak it out! The Holy Spirit has filled you and you're hearing words—just speak those out. That's it!"

As I did, peace and joy washed over me and flooded my mind and heart. I felt like I was getting this huge hug from God and I felt wholly loved. He was the closest I'd ever known Him to be to me in that moment.

I had so many questions that night after leaving the altar of the Trinity Bible College chapel where our South Dakota camps were held. I continued to pray in tongues as I was falling asleep to ensure I would still "have it" the next day! Throughout the camp services as well as back home at church, I learned more about this overflow, the baptism of the Holy Spirit that is forever in me.

develop

I can't fully convey how praying in my prayer language, or in tongues, throughout my teenage years radically changed my perspective and gave me strength through some dark days. In high school, I would wake up early and pray in tongues for half an hour to start each day; I can look back now and see how God intervened on my behalf by equipping me each day to enter my public high school. I had some difficult days and I quickly saw how praying in tongues built up my faith, gave me confidence and peace beyond my understanding, and a power within me that was like nothing else. And it all started with not even fully knowing everything that the baptism in the Holy Spirit entailed. I just desired to have more of Him, and this unique gift came from that. don't wait for camp or youth conference, or even Wednesday night youth group, to seek for the infilling of the Holy Spirit or to speak out in your prayer language. Make a plan to pray daily in your prayer language for when you do, you're praying the exact will of God.

deploy

Reread these Scripture passages out loud in your team. Model what the disciples were asked to do and wait for the Holy Spirit in prayer. Remove distractions by meeting in a quiet room or even dimming the lights. Notice in these passages that no one who received the gift was forced to speak nor were they required to do any certain ritual. All they were told was to gather together and wait. The Holy Spirit met them where they were at. Seek HIM—not the gift. Being baptized means being immersed. Desire for more of God to consume your heart and mind. Lead out in prayer declaring you're giving the Holy Spirit control. Speak out loud that you welcome the Holy Spirit in the room you're in. Wait with great expectation as you continue to pray out and sing your own spontaneous songs of worship to Him.

prayer

Pray with your team by touching a shoulder or holding hands as you pray in unity for the same goal: the Holy Spirit to fill the space you're in as well as each person on your team. As you all pray out loud at the same time, as each person gets filled with the Holy Spirit, start speaking out loud in your prayer language. Go around the circle and pray over each person to be filled with the overflow of the Holy Spirit. Don't limit God! I know of friends who have been filled with the Holy Spirit while in their bedroom or driving in their car down the road.