

**FOUNDATION**  
**Instruction About Baptisms – Baptism With the Holy Spirit**  
**Ephesians 5:15-21**

**Ephesians 5:15-21**~ <sup>15</sup> Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

I. Introduction

Good morning, Brothers and Sisters. I am so glad to be here with you this morning. I cannot express enough how much joy I have standing here before you. Something that I do not take lightly nor dismissively.

During these past few weeks while I was doing my morning meditation and devotion through Oswald Chamber's classic daily devotional book, *My Utmost For His Highest*, I was pondering of my worth as a pastor and a student of the Gospel. And I was thinking that we as pastors are NOT experts in anything. We are not accountants or financial planners that can help you with your finances and budgeting. We are not doctors that can give you medical advice. We are not even counselors who can probe the human psyche and tell you why you do what you do. We have no business talking about these things behind the pulpit because we are no experts in these things.

We are just pastors and our "expertise", if you will, is the Bible. Our worth is found and tied to how accurately we teach God's word and make it understandable. I have one main job which is to make Disciples of Christ by accurately teaching us to obey everything Jesus has commanded.

With that in mind, please turn with me to Hebrews 6, as we continue to lay the FOUNDATION of our Christian faith ... Hebrews chapter 6 and verses 1 to 3.

**Hebrews 6:1-3**~

<sup>1</sup> Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of <sup>[1]</sup> repentance from dead works and of <sup>[2]</sup> faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> and of instruction about <sup>[3]</sup> washings, the <sup>[4]</sup> laying on of hands, the <sup>[5]</sup> resurrection of the dead, and <sup>[6]</sup> eternal judgment.

<sup>3</sup> And this we will do if God permits.

## II. Teaching on Baptisms

Without belaboring our time by reviewing what we have talked about in the past, let me just make two quick reminders about the Instruction on Baptisms.

### 1. First, baptisms are our entrance into the Spiritual Society.

Recall that as we are entering into teachings on baptisms, we are entering into what Oswald Chamber calls the “Spiritual Society.” We are no longer an individual, living for ourselves (we ARE an individual, but more than that). We belong to the society of the Savior ... we belong to the corporate body of Christ. We belong to each other. And that is why you and I are here today. And that is why I am always so excited to gather together every Sunday and every Friday and as much as we can gather together.

It is worth listening to the words of Oswald Chamber in his classic book, *My Utmost For His Highest* on day 12<sup>th</sup> of July. He writes:

The Church ceases to be a spiritual society when it is on the lookout for the development of its own organization. The rehabilitation of the human race on Jesus Christ’s plan means that the realization of Jesus Christ in corporate life as well as in individual life. Jesus Christ sent apostles and teachers for this purpose – that the corporate Personality might be realized.

**We are not here to develop a spiritual life of our own, or to enjoy spiritual retirement; we are here so to realize Jesus Christ that the Body of Christ may be built up.** (emphasis is mine).

And this is why, in addition to being baptized with water, we need to be baptized with the Holy Spirit ... so that, we together, can build this “Spiritual Society.”

### 2. Second, baptisms are Many.

There are not just one baptism ... there are many. The Bible lists at least five baptisms.

#### a. One: there is a baptism of Water (Matthew 3:11).

By the way, we had looked at this the last Sunday I was here. However, there were still more for me to say ... (not surprising). So instead of taking another Sunday to talk about baptism with water, I will put that message online in our YouTube Channel for those who want to know more about it.

#### b. Two: there is a baptism of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:12).

We will look at this today.

#### c. Three: there is a baptism of Fire (Matthew 3:12).

This is the baptism of judgment.

- d. Four: there is a baptism of Suffering (Mark 10:38-39).

All Christians are to bear this baptism until the day our Lord Jesus returns.

- e. Five: there is a baptism for the Dead (1 Corinthians 15:29).

These last three are worth to look at, and I am still debating whether to talk about them or not. What can you do? I am a teacher. But today I want us to look at the Baptism With the Holy Spirit.

### III. Baptism With the Holy Spirit

Baptism with the Holy Spirit ... it is one of the foundational teaching of the Church. The Body of Christ needs it. Forgiven Life Community Church needs it.

When I was a young Christian, just came to know the Lord and dedicated my life to Him, I wanted to serve Him. But I always had a difficult time talking to people about Jesus. Quite frankly, I think I am boring. I shared my faith with people, but there were very little fruits.

I came across a very well known evangelist by the name of Billy Graham. He would have conferences or conventions all over the nation that would draw in thousands of people. And when he gave an invitation at the end of his message, thousands more would swarm forward to receive Christ. So I studied Billy Graham. I studied his posture. I studied his style. I studied what he said and how he said it. He would stand erect and confident. He would speak slowly but clearly. And he would always say, "The Bible says ... the Bible says ... the Bible says." And so that was what I did. I mimicked him. And when I gave an "altar call" (if you will) at the end of my message ... nothing happened. I actually think I put some people to sleep.

Billy Graham had something I did not have. He was filled with the Spirit. I was not. There was nothing fanciful with what Billy Graham said. He was not eloquent. He spoke in simple sentences ... simple vocabulary ... and yet he was so powerful in his words. That was the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Then I went to seminary and had a professor, who to this day I admire. His teaching made an impact in my life. He was funny ... whimsical. And I was not the only student whom he had impacted. I saw many of my classmates registered for all of this professor's classes, like myself. We were glued to his teaching. He was smart and insightful and so powerful in his words. So I started to copy his style. His inflection when he spoke. I started to teach like he taught. Maybe I would have an impact on people as he had on me and others. But nothing. I did not have the effect that he had. It was not the style that I was lacking. It was Spirit.

Unless you and I are baptized by the Holy Spirit, we would not have the "power" to affect changes. And if we want to make an impact in our "Spiritual Society", we need this baptism with the Spirit.

#### IV. The Three Proposition of the Holy Spirit Ministry

But what is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and how do we obtain it? Many people often get this confused because they do not realize that there are several ministries of the Holy Spirit ... and they tend to glue all these ministries of the Spirit together, making it very confusing.

Let's turn to the Bible and see what the Sacred Text has to say about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit because the work of the Spirit is extremely valuable to the Church.

The first mention of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is spoken by John the Baptist in Matthew 3.

**Matthew 3:11**~ <sup>11</sup> "As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (NASB)

John the Baptist speaking to the Jewish crowd, specifically the Pharisees and Sadducees, is telling them that his purpose is to "baptize [them] with water for repentance". Water Baptism is a sign of repentance.

However, John the Baptist continues, there would be someone who is coming later who would also baptize them. Of course, John is referring to Jesus. Jesus would either baptize people with the Holy Spirit or He would baptize them with fire.

There are a few things to note about this Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

1. First, the Baptism of the Holy is done by Jesus.

Please note what John is saying. It is Jesus who is the one who will baptizes us with the Holy Spirit. A man and a woman cannot baptize us. A man and a woman cannot immerse us, fill us, nor give us the Holy Spirit. Only Jesus can. Jesus is the subject ... the One who does the baptizing. The Holy Spirit is the object ... the One whom we are baptized or immersed into.

We know that Jesus will baptize us with the Blessed Holy Spirit, but what does that mean? Let's follow Jesus' promise so we can understand this blessing of ours in more detail.

Towards the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, he gives this promise to the disciples as they are walking to Gethsemane.

**John 14:15-17**~ <sup>15</sup> "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup> "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper [this is the Holy Spirit], that He [the Holy Spirit] may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> ~~that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides~~ with you and will be in you. (NASB)

2. Second, there are Three prepositions to describe the Ministries of the Holy Spirit.

Here in John 14, we see two of the three. Jesus uses two prepositions to describe the position of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit will be "with" you and will be "in" you.

Jesus says that the Spirit is "with" them ... that is, present tense. The Holy Spirit is “with” the disciples now ... abiding and remaining with the disciples presently. The Spirit being “with” the disciples can mean one of two things.

- Either: The Holy Spirit abides or dwells "with" them could mean that the Spirit is moving and working around them to draw them to Jesus.
- Or: It could mean that the Spirit is within Jesus, and as Jesus is with them so is the Holy Spirit. In other words, the Holy Spirit is with the disciples in the person of Jesus.

Either of those two scenarios can work. But the fact remains that one of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is being with people to convict, convince, and convert.

Jesus also promises that the Holy Spirit will be "in" them ... that is, future tense. The Holy Spirit WILL live inside every disciple. Jesus is referring to the future because Jesus has not been resurrected yet. The Holy Spirit indwelling inside a believer occurs after the resurrection. Resurrection must come first before regeneration. And I believe that this is fulfilled a few chapters later in John 20 after Jesus resurrected from the grave.

**John 20:22**~<sup>22</sup> And when He had said this, He **breathed** on them and said to them, “**Receive** the Holy Spirit. (NASB)

Jesus "breathes" on them. It is symbolic. Jesus gives His disciples the Holy Spirit to live or dwell in them.

Since the resurrection has already happened, these disciples are regenerated at this time. When Jesus breathes on them, the Holy Spirit now dwells "in" the disciples as Jesus promised in John 14:17. So the Holy Spirit has dwelled "with" them, and now, the Holy Spirit dwells "in" them.

However, this is not the last promise Jesus gives to his disciples concerning the Holy Spirit. About forty days later, Jesus revealed a “new promise” to them in Acts 1. The promise is new in a sense of what the Holy Spirit will do. But the promise is not new in a sense that the Father, Jesus, and John the Baptist has already told the disciples that they will receive the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 1:4**~<sup>4</sup> Gathering them together, He [Jesus] commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, “Which,” *He said*, “you heard of from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” (NASB)

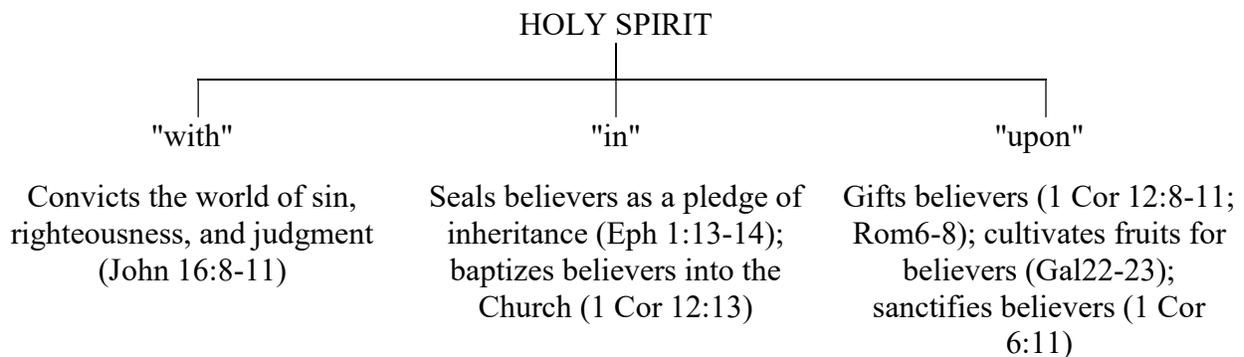
This is what John the Baptist has told the Jewish crowd in Matthew 3:11. So it is not really new. And please note ... the Holy Spirit dwelling “with” the disciples and “in” the disciples are not

the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It is yet to come. A few verses later in Acts 1:8, Jesus reveals something new about the work of the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 1:5,8**~<sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be **baptized** with the Holy Spirit not many days from now” ...<sup>8</sup> but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come **upon** you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

Jesus has used three prepositions to describe the different types of relationships the disciples will have with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit will dwell "with" them (John 14:7), the Spirit will dwell "in" them (John 14:7), and the Spirit will be "upon" them (Acts 1:8).

So the Holy Spirit does three general things:



The Holy Spirit dwells “with” us. He is constantly working around us. He moves the heart, he opens the eyes, he whispers in the ears, working toward the conviction and salvation of people.

The Holy Spirit dwells “in” us. Once we believe in Christ and have faith in God, the Holy Spirit dwells in us, continuing the work of convictions. But He also dwells in us as a pledge of our inheritance with God. After all, if one does not have the Holy Spirit, one does not have Christ. And if one does not have Christ, one is not saved.

**Romans 8:9-11**~<sup>9</sup> However, you are not in the flesh but in the **Spirit**, if indeed the **Spirit of God dwells in** you. But if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, he does not belong to Him.<sup>10</sup> If **Christ** is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.<sup>11</sup> But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. (NASB)

The Holy Spirit also dwells “upon” us. We are regenerated when the Holy Spirit dwells “in” us. We belong to Jesus when the Holy Spirit lives “in” us. But there is a ministry of the Holy Spirit that comes after we are saved ... this is the baptism of the Holy Spirit where He comes “upon” us.

This baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs in Acts 2:4 when the disciples are filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 2:4~**<sup>4</sup> And they were all **filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. (NASB)

3. Third, there are many Synonyms for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

There are many synonyms the Bible uses to describe the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We do not have time to get into this so I will just list them for you here.

a. One: Holy Spirit comes UPON.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is described as the Spirit coming upon a person. We see this in the first chapter of Acts.

**Acts 1:5~**<sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

**Acts 1:8~**<sup>8</sup> but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you

**Acts 2:4~**<sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

b. Two: FILL with the Holy Spirit

In addition, being filled with the Holy Spirit is referring to the same baptism ministry of the Holy Spirit. This is seen in Acts 2:4.

c. Three: RECEIVE the Holy Spirit

In Acts 10, we see three more words that are use to describe the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 10:44-48~**<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. <sup>45</sup> All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. <sup>46</sup> For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, <sup>47</sup>“Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *did*, can he?” <sup>48</sup> And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.

**Acts 11:15-17~**<sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as *He did* upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup> Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as *He gave* to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?”

d. Four: Holy Spirit FELL UPON

e. Five: Holy Spirit POURED OUT

## V. The Need For Baptism of the Holy Spirit

We all need to be baptized with the Holy Spirit to make an impact in our “spiritual society” (the Church) and in our social society (the world). This Baptism is a gift from the Holy Spirit. It is the long awaited promise that the Father promises, Jesus promises, and John the Baptist says will come. And I truly believe that if we do not have this Baptism of the Holy Spirit, our services to the saints and work in the world are limited and dwarfed.

Let me give you some final concluding thoughts about this wonderful baptism of the Holy Spirit.

### 1. First, not all Believers are baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Just because we are Christians does not mean that we are baptized with the Holy Spirit. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, that is, the Spirit lives “in”. But it does not mean that we are baptized by the Holy Spirit, or that the Spirit comes “upon” us.

In Acts 19, the Apostle Paul meets 12 Christians in Ephesus who are disciples of Jesus.

**Acts 19:1~**<sup>1</sup> And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples.

They are believers in Christ but they have not been baptized by the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 19:2-4~**<sup>2</sup> And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”<sup>3</sup> And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John’s baptism.”<sup>4</sup> And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.”

Paul does not assume that just because believers are baptized with water that they are also baptized by the Holy Spirit. And neither should we.

**Acts 19:5-7~**<sup>5</sup> On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.<sup>6</sup> And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.<sup>7</sup> There were about twelve men in all.

I want to experience everything that God has for me. And that includes being baptized by the Spirit.

### 2. Second, Baptism of the Holy Spirit is to receive Power.

**Acts 1:8~<sup>8</sup>** [Jesus says,] but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you ...

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is to receive “power”. The baptism of the Spirit does not guarantee a change character. That is the ministry of the indwelling Spirit who leads us.

**Romans 8:11,14~<sup>11</sup>** But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you ... <sup>14</sup>For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

And the Baptism of the Holy Spirit does not produce spiritual fruit in us. The fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23<sup>1</sup> is the work of the indwelling Spirit. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit does not guarantee this fruitful life. The Corinthian believers know this all too well. They are short and lacking in no gifts,<sup>2</sup> but their character is found wanting. There is division, dissension, immorality, and a whole host of things in that Church. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is about power and not fruit.

Why do we need this “power”? And the power to do what exactly? We need this power to serve in our Spiritual Society. It is the power to do ministry. This leads to our third point.

3. Third, Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for Ministry.

**Acts 1:8~<sup>8</sup>** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

It is the power to witness for Christ. It is the power to have boldness to share the Gospel. It is the power to give a defense of the hope that we believe. It is the power to serve.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the gifting of the Holy Spirit so that we can serve one another and witness to the world. Some of these gifts are miraculous, like the gifts mention in 1 Corinthians 12. The gifts of:

- Word of Wisdom
- Word of Knowledge
- The gift of Faith
- The gift of Healing
- The working of Miracles
- The gift of Prophecy

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<sup>1</sup> **Galatians 5:22-23~<sup>22</sup>** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

<sup>2</sup> **1 Corinthians 1:7~<sup>7</sup>** so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

- The ability to distinguish between spirits
- Speaking in Tongues
- And Interpretation of Tongues

And there are gifts from the Holy Spirit that are not miraculous but are equally valuable, such as the gifts mention in Romans 12:6-8.

**Romans 12:6-8**~ <sup>6</sup> Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup> the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

This Baptism of the Holy Spirit is vital for ministry.

4. Fourth, Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not Permanent.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit comes on us when we serve and do ministry. Once that task is done, the baptism departs until the next time we do ministry.

This is what happened to Peter. In Acts 2, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke to the crowd during Pentecost.

**Acts 2:4**~ <sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Once Peter's work is finished, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit must have left because we read in Acts 4:8 that Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit again. And this time, he ministers to the rulers and elders of Israel.

**Acts 4:7-8**~ <sup>7</sup> And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders

The baptism must have left again when Peter finishes his ministry to the leaders of Israel because a few verses later, Peter is filled with the baptism of the Holy Spirit again.

**Acts 4:31**~ <sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

So we are baptized by the Holy Spirit when we do ministry. The Spirit comes on us to give us power for that task. And then once we finish that task, the Spirit departs until the next time we do ministry.

This is why Paul exhorts the Believers in Ephesus to be continually filled with the Spirit. And they do that by continually serve the Body of Christ and minister to the world.

## VI. How Do We Be Baptized with the Holy Spirit

Let me conclude with how we can receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

### 1. First, we Pray.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit is done by Jesus. “Jesus will baptize us with the Holy Spirit,” John the Baptist informs. So we pray for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus promises that if we ask for the Holy Spirit, the Father will give us the Holy Spirit.

**Luke 11:9-13**~ <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup> What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup> or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

### 2. Second, we Serve.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit comes upon us only when we serve and minister to one another. We can pray all we want to be baptized by the Spirit, but if we do not step out by faith and serve, we will never be baptized by the Spirit.

Paul tells the church in Ephesus to be continually filled with the Spirit by serving one another.

**Ephesians 5:18-19**~ <sup>18</sup> And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

### 3. Third, Hands are laid on us.

Finally, have someone with the Holy Spirit lay hands on you.

**Acts 8:17-19**~ <sup>17</sup> Then they [Peter and John] laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. <sup>18</sup> Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money, <sup>19</sup> saying, “Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”

**Acts 9:17**~ <sup>17</sup> So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which

you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

**Acts 19:6~** <sup>6</sup> And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they *began* speaking with tongues and prophesying.

Laying on of Hands is the next FOUNDATION in our series. We will take a look at this next week.

## VII. The Blessing

**Presider:** May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. May the love of our Lord Jesus Christ be unto you.

**Congregation:** And also to you.