

SPIRIT FILLED

Part 2: Baptism in the Spirit | Discussion Notes

Often we can jump straight into chatting about the talk, but why not mix it up this week? Start by asking God to fill your conversations and pray for an awareness of the Holy Spirit with you. You might want to break into smaller groups at this point and pray for each other to experience the Holy Spirit in your time together.

Spend 5 minutes reflecting on the last week and whether we have been able to notice the Holy Spirit in our lives.

- Have you changed anything about your routine or rhythms in the last week to try and make more space for the Holy Spirit?
- How have you experience the Holy Spirit in your life this week?

Read through Acts 19:1-7.

- What does it mean to be 'baptised in the Holy Spirit'?
- What does this passage show us about baptism in the Holy Spirit?

Kate shared 4 things that are universal to being filled with the Holy Spirit:

1. It is for followers of Christ
2. It is intimate
3. It is repeated
4. It is exhilarating

Followers

Kate explained that the Holy Spirit isn't available to people who haven't chosen to follow Jesus. Read Acts 8:9-23 where we see this Simon the Sorcerer trying to buy the Holy Spirit without following Jesus.

- Why do you think it is that we first have to follow Jesus to receive the Holy Spirit?

Intimate

Kate also explained that receiving the Holy Spirit is intimate. Read John 4:16-17.

- How can the Holy Spirit help us to grow in intimacy in our relationship with God?

Repeated

Ephesians 5:18 tells us that we need to be filled with the Spirit repeatedly. The word for 'filled' is written in the continuous present tense - literally, be always being filled with the Spirit.

- Why do we need to come back for repeated filling? Why isn't it just a one-time thing?
- Kate said that being filled continually with the Spirit helps us grow in self-control. Have you experienced this yourself?

Exhilarating

Being filled with the Holy Spirit should be amazing! Kate described it like 'receiving all of Heaven's goods in one go'.

- Have you experienced this yourself? If so, what was it like?

Throughout this series we want to make space to listen to the Holy Spirit and pray for one another. You may have already prayed together at the start, but this is a good chance to move away from just prayer requests and instead pray for each Hub member to be filled with the Spirit again. So, simply:

1. Invite the Holy Spirit to come and refill us. Keep it simple.
2. Wait, either in silence or with gentle background music on
3. Wait a bit longer...
4. God may say something to you or someone in your group, which is great. Or you may just sit there and let each person experience the Holy Spirit on their own terms.
5. Be attentive to what the Spirit is doing. Ask people to share what's happening with them.
6. Then, when the time feels right, just wrap up with a simple prayer.