

Welcome to New Life !

We are very pleased you are here. It is an honor to have you worshipping with us today! This information is provided to help you feel welcome and "at home."

Worship in Singing & Giving

- We leave how to worship up to you as an individual. During **singing** worship some people remain seated, some stand, others kneel, many clap, and some lift their hands. The outward expression is not the issue - it is what is in your heart that counts. Just relax and enjoy the presence of God.
- If you would like to receive personal **prayer** during worship with singing, you may go to one of the Prayer Teams located at the back of the sanctuary.
- Invitation is given for **tithes and offerings**. If you are our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute when God's tithes and offerings are received.

Worship in Sharing God's Love

Expressions of greeting and God's love are extended to all, especially to our guests.

Worship in Meditating on God's Word

Teaching from the Bible for about 35 minutes.

We encourage you to use our **staffed Nursery** [which has a private nursing room] and **Children's Churches** during the service. Please ask an usher for assistance in locating the various rooms.

{turn page over}

THE TRUTH ABOUT PENTECOST

Acts 2:4

- Jesus had comforted the disciples by promising to send the person of the Holy Spirit when He left.

Acts 1:4-5 GNB "... gave them this order: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift I told you about, the gift my Father promised. John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be **baptized with the Holy Spirit**."

- Ten days later on the Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:4 GODSWORD "All the believers were **filled** with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak."

- EXPOSING SOME MYTHS -

MYTH 1: YOU MUST "SPEAK IN OTHER LANGUAGES" IN ORDER TO GO TO HEAVEN

TRUTH: God says your only qualification for salvation is to verbalize your heartfelt belief that Jesus rose again to give you life.

James 2:17 The Message "Isn't it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense?"

- It is wrong to make anything more than **real faith** a requirement to entering heaven.

MYTH 2: THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT TURNS YOU INTO A SUPERIOR CHRISTIAN

- Like salvation, this is a gift we can't earn -- so we can't take pride in it.

1 Corinthians 4:7 "What are you so puffed up about? What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if all you have is from God, why act as though you are so great, and as though you have accomplished something on your own?"

1 Corinthians 13:4-5 GODSWORD "Love ... doesn't sing its own praises. It isn't arrogant."

TRUTH: Being filled has nothing directly to do with being more **holy**.

Acts 1:8 LB "When the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power to testify about me **with great effect**..."

**- Digging Deeper –
“The Truth about Pentecost”**

For personal or small group study

Week of May 31, 2009

- “Speaking in other languages” is not a quick fix to some sin in your life.

Acts 3:12 NLT “People of Israel,” he said, “what is so astounding about this? And why look at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power and godliness?”

Acts 4:13 CEV “these men had been with Jesus”

- If anything makes you more holy, it’s the humility and time you spend seeking God to receive the gift.

MYTH 3: “SPEAKING IN OTHER LANGUAGES” **MAKES YOU FILLED**

- It is true that each time the Bible reports someone was filled, the only initial physical evidence mentioned was speaking in tongues.

TRUTH: The filament in a light bulb doesn’t produce light until electricity empowers it. So it is when the Holy Spirit fills a person.

Acts 2:4 GODSWORD “All the believers . . . began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak.”

- Being filled is all about a **love affair** with God, not His gifts.

MYTH 4: **NOT EVERYONE IS SUPPOSED TO “SPEAK IN OTHER LANGUAGES”**

1 Corinthians 12:30 NIV “Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?”

- This myth falsely applies the rule for public expression to private expression.

TRUTH: Paul gives a universal **command** in Ephesians 5:18 ... “*Be filled with the Spirit*”

Acts 19:2 GODSWORD “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?”

1 Corinthians 14:5 NLT “I wish you all had the gift of speaking in tongues”

- We need the power that came at Pentecost to finish the work Jesus did on this earth before He returns.

- This is not about you using God or His power gifts. It is about God using you.

Acts 20:24 NLT “my life is worth **nothing to me unless** I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.”

Did you have an “AHA” moment from the sermon or sermon notes? If so, what was it and how has it impacted you?

GROUP DISCUSSION or PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. When you think of “being filled” with or “being baptized” with the Holy Spirit, what is the first thing that comes into your mind? What do you believe causes that to be your first response? How has the infilling of the Holy Spirit confused you in the past, or even now? [1 Corinthians 14:1-33, 39-40]
2. How would you describe the Holy Spirit to someone else? What are some ways we commonly misunderstand the purpose and the working of the Holy Spirit? [Genesis 1:2; Acts 1:5, 8; 4:31; John 15:26; 16:7-15; 20:22; Titus 3:5; Romans 8:2, 5-16]
3. Which of the four myths revealed in the sermon and sermon notes brought the most clarity to, or most challenged, your belief about the infilling of the Holy Spirit? Describe that.
4. Read Acts 1:4-5; 2:1-4; 8:14-19; 10:44-48; 19:1-7. These are evidences in Scripture when people were filled by the Spirit. What are some common and special insights you gained as you read these passages?
5. The late Hudson Taylor, missionary to China, said, “*What is wanted is not that we should get more of the Holy Spirit, but that the Spirit should get more of you.*” What do you think he meant? Why do we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Don’t we receive all of the Spirit at our salvation? [Colossians 2:9-10; 3:3; John 3:5-6]

What does it mean to “walk in the Spirit?” [Galatians 5:16-25; Luke 4:3-12; Romans 6:11-14; 7:15, 21-25]
6. Search for the word “Spirit” in your Bible concordance, Bible software, or online at Biblegateway.com — especially in the Old Testament, but also in the New Testament. Examine as many verses as you would like, or have time for, that refer to God’s Spirit or the Holy Spirit (in contrast to man’s spirit or evil spirits) and evaluate the effects the Spirit had on whatever, or whoever, He encountered.