

BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY GHOST NOVEMBER 15, 2017

EPHESIANS 4:12-15

Our Heavenly Father is no different than any earthly father who wants his children to mature and become responsible individuals. He gave us the Five-Fold Ministry Gifts to help us along the way. Tonight, my goal is to share certain elements of the Christian life that can assist us on our journey to spiritual maturity.

1. Justification: **ROMANS 3:24-26 (ESV)** - God legally declaring man innocent and guiltless because of the Blood of Jesus.
2. Regeneration: **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17** – Justification becomes a reality when one accepts Christ. **JOHN 5:24**
3. Sanctification: **2 CORINTHIANS 7:1** – An ongoing process by which we become more Christ-like in conduct and character.
4. Transformation: **ROMANS 12:2** – Involves lining up our thinking with God’s way of thinking. **JAMES 1:21**
5. The Word: **2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17** – Our source for doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness and mind renewal.
6. Water Baptism: **ROMANS 6:4-7** – Identifying with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.
7. Giving, praying and fasting: **MATTHEW 6:1,5,16** – Disciplines that show humility, faithfulness and hunger before God.
8. Assembly: **HEBREWS 10:24-25** – Creating a habitation for God in the spirit. Providing a place worthy of His manifested presence.
9. Ministry: **1 PETER 4:10 (NLT)** – The call to serve using the gifts, talents and abilities given by God.
10. Communion and covenant: **MATTHEW 26:26-28 (NLT)** – The anchor for the soul and foundation for one’s faith. **PSALMS 89:34**
11. Suffering: **1 PETER 4:12-16** – Persecution that accompanies living a godly life. **2 TIMOTHY 3:10-12**
12. Eschatology: **2 PETER 3:10-14** – A study of future events leading to the final judgment and the new heaven and earth.
13. The Spirit baptism: **ACTS 1:4-5** – Jesus promised to send the Holy spirit to take His place after His ascension. He commands them to wait until they are baptized with the Spirit before fulfilling the great commission.
 - A. **ACTS 1:8** – An experience after salvation in which one receives added dimensions of spiritual power for life and ministry. An experience they needed to succeed.
 - B. **ACTS 2:1-4** – The day came, they all were baptized and spoke in tongues inspired by the Spirit.
 - C. **ACTS 2:14-21** – Peter boldly preaches the first gospel message. Joel’s prophecy is explained and the resurrection of Jesus is proclaimed. Where did this boldness come from?

THE IMPORTANCE OF TONGUES

1. The visible proof of being filled. **ACTS 2**
2. Jews and Gentiles both needed it. **ACTS 2, 10**
3. It convinced the leaders and Peter that Gentiles could be saved. **ACTS 11**
4. We speak divine secrets to God. **1 CORINTHIANS 14:2**
5. We charge up our spiritual batteries. **1 CORINTHIANS 14:4**
6. Our spirit prays. **1 CORINTHIANS 14:14**
7. We give thanks well. **1 CORINTHIANS 14:17**
8. Spiritual refreshing. **ISAIAH 28:11-12**