

# GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



## GIG303 – Impelled by the Spirit

Hi, and welcome to this podcast. As we have been preparing for the upcoming Day of Pentecost, I have such an anticipation, desire, drive for this Day of Pentecost. I know that many times when we talk about the Day of Pentecost and study the Day of Pentecost, we really focus upon the Scriptures in Acts and what transpired with the one hundred twenty on the Day of Pentecost. We can look at the days that Yeshua spent with the disciples and many others for forty days preceding the Day of Pentecost, and what happened really following the resurrection. These verses are a lot of what we look at; at least for me, that is what I tend to focus upon. But I have also had just a deep desire to look at, in a sense, the Day of Pentecost for Yeshua. And so, I am going to read some Scriptures about the baptism of the Holy Spirit, or the coming of the Holy Spirit, upon Yeshua, and see what this might speak to our hearts in relationship to this Day of Pentecost and experiences that we should be looking for.

I am going to begin in the book of Mark at chapter 1, verses 9-13.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him; and a voice came out of the heavens: "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased." Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness. And He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and the angels were ministering to Him.

Two things really grab my attention when we read these verses about Yeshua, when we read about His experience of being baptized by John in the River Jordan. We understand that as He was coming up out of the water, then also there was a baptism, not just in water, but a baptism in the Holy Spirit, or the descending of the Holy Spirit upon Yeshua. The two things that grab my attention are, number one, the fact that as we read along in some of these verses, we see that the Spirit descended upon the Lord and it remained upon Him. I think this is significant, because many times when I relate to people about the baptism of the Holy Spirit, or about what transpired in the book of Acts for the one hundred and twenty, I do not necessarily get this idea that when the Holy Spirit came upon them, the Holy Spirit remained upon them, or dwelt upon them, or dwelt within them. This is something that is made very clear when we look at the experience of Yeshua at the descending of the Spirit upon Him. The Spirit did not just come upon Him as some type of an event, and then go back into heaven or become a lesser force in His life; the Spirit descended upon Him, and it remained upon Him.

The second thing that is so significant to me is the fact that in verse 12 it says, "Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness." So from the moment that the Holy Spirit descended upon Yeshua, He was then driven or impelled or led, or whatever terminology we want to use; and I want to look at that a little bit in other verses, the fact that the Holy Spirit coming upon Him was a change of life, and now He was driven by Holy Spirit in His life. From this moment through going to the cross, He was impelled and driven and led by the Holy Spirit.

I think this needs to be more real to us as believers when we contemplate this Day of Pentecost, and we contemplate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit or the descending of the Spirit upon us as individual

believers. So I want to read the same verse of Mark chapter 1, only I want to read it in the King James Version; because when we get to verse 12, it says, "Immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness." So again, I want to get across to us this compelling action. There are many translations that use this term, "that drove Him into the wilderness." And one thing about this verb, which even the New American Standard recognizes, is that it is present tense; it does not have a past tense to it. The past tense concept, to say He "was driven," or "driveth," puts it in a past tense; but the true tense in the Greek is present tense. That is far more impacting when you read it that way, that the Spirit "drives Him into," "is driving," it is "still driving." What it is trying to get across through the grammar is that it does not stop. This experience that Christ had did not stop. It was not something that has a present and a past tense to it, it is constant. It is always in a present sense that this was happening with Christ.

I think we need to understand that, because I believe that the Holy Spirit, or Holy Spirit in our life, wants to be a present force – always present, always in the now. Whatever is happening now in this moment in our lives, Holy Spirit is a force that is leading, is driving, is taking us to where we want to go.

Let's go to Luke the fourth chapter, verse 1, again just trying to emphasize this aspect of Holy Spirit in our life. It says, "Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness." So again, I like the fact that it shows He was there with Him in the wilderness. He did not just impel Him to go into the wilderness, He was with Him. Again, get this idea that Holy Spirit, when He descended upon Yeshua, did not leave Yeshua; He dwelt upon Him, He remained upon Him. And this is further given in the Scriptures I will get to in one moment. But first, let's finish this idea with Matthew the fourth chapter, verse 1: "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil." So again, He was led, He was impelled, He was driven and led around the wilderness. So we get this idea.

Let's jump now to John the first chapter, verse 32. This is talking about John the Baptist's testimony of Yeshua and of this event of the baptism and the descending of the Spirit. Verse 32, "John testified saying, 'I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.'" So John really emphasizes this point that once the Spirit, once Holy Spirit descended upon Yeshua, Holy Spirit remained upon Him. We also see this in verse 32 of John the first chapter in the King James Version: "And John bare record, saying, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon Him.'" Again, this idea of dwelt – the Holy Spirit dwelt upon Yeshua from this time forward in His life.

I believe that we see more clearly these two ideas or concepts when we look at the experience of Yeshua – number one being that the Spirit led Him from that time on, drove Him, was the driving force in His life of God in Him; and number two, that this was something that was not ending. The Holy Spirit abode. He abode and He led constantly in the life of Christ. So I do not think Holy Spirit is any different today. And if we are believing for an experience of the Holy Spirit in our lives in Pentecost today, I think these two aspects of Holy Spirit should be very real and very alive for us.

Holy Spirit should come upon us, dwell in us, abide upon us, lead us, drive us, and guide us in a daily way from that point in our lives on. And again, there is too much of a sense that I have from talking to people about the Holy Spirit, or from working over years in church, that you have an experience, you have a baptism of the Holy Spirit. I know that was a big deal at times – is there a baptism of the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, miracles, gifts of the Holy Spirit, is that all reality? Yes, it is reality. But let's not get lost in the weeds here, because a greater sense of that is this constant abiding and constant leading, guiding, directing, and I would say control of Holy Spirit in our lives.

To me, it is too much this idea that we can turn on and off Him directing us or guiding our life, and I personally want to be free from any vestiges of that. I want very clearly in my mind to open my heart, to give my life to the Holy Spirit in a way that He descends upon me, abides upon me, abides within me, guides my life, and takes real control over my life from that point on. So let's look at First Corinthians. I want to look at several Scriptures here, because I want to emphasize this point. First Corinthians the third chapter, verse 16, says, "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" Do we not know and understand that we are a temple? When we are receiving Holy Spirit, we are giving ourselves to be the housing for Holy Spirit in the world. And Holy Spirit comes, dwells in us as His temple, and the Spirit of God is dwelling in us constantly. It is not something that comes and goes. It is not something that we say, "Somebody is sick! We need to really draw on the Holy Spirit and believe for something to come, for miracles of healing," or whatever. No. Holy Spirit dwells in you as the temple, as a temple of God.

First Corinthians 6:19-20, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body." This kind of encompasses both aspects of this. We are not our own, we are led. We are to be given to God, to the Lord, to Holy Spirit, in a way that He directs our life. Again, when we look at those verses earlier, we see how powerful this is. He was *driven* into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit. He was *led*. And when you look up that word in the Greek, it has very strong content to it. It can mean *thrust*, it can mean *thrown*. So it is a powerful reality that Holy Spirit in our life comes to us to dwell in us, recognizing we have been bought with a price. We are not our own any longer just to do and to decide what we want, to go where we want, and to be what we want. We have One in us from God who is leading and driving us as we walk through our life in the Lord.

Let's read one more Scripture here, Second Corinthians chapter 6, verse 16. "Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, 'I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.'" He does that through Holy Spirit being in our lives. And He encourages us in verses 17-18, "'Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate,' says the Lord, 'and do not touch what is unclean; and I will welcome you. And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me,' says the Lord Almighty." I love that, because we want to be His sons and His daughters, and we want Him to dwell in us. We want Him to be a father, and what does a father do? He fathers. And the Holy Spirit is a vehicle of God fathering us as children, teaching us, directing us, guiding us. That is what we should be driven for and want for the spiritual experience of being filled with the Holy Spirit.

One more Scripture, Second Corinthians chapter 5, starting at verses 14-17.

For the love of Christ controls us [see, there is this control that happens in our lives; this happens through and by Holy Spirit having taken up abode in us], having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer. Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

What is that really talking about, a new creature? We are a new creature. Why? Because we are no longer driven by our own desires, our own ideas, our own lusts, but instead we are driven and led by the Holy Spirit. We are literally new and different creatures on this earth who are dwelt in, who have abiding

with us Holy Spirit. And through that experience, all the old things pass away and new things come, because the Holy Spirit will lead us and guide us into new things that God has for us.

Verses 18-20,

Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

These last two verses, 19 and 20, remind me so much, they take me back into the Book of Acts to that Day of Pentecost when one hundred and twenty people received Holy Spirit into their lives. Because what do we see as a result of that? We see these two verses in action, namely that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He committed to those who received the Holy Spirit this word of reconciliation. And what did they do? They went out and they were ambassadors to the world for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through those one hundred and twenty following the Day of Pentecost, "We beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." What a beautiful explanation of the Book of Acts! "We beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." That is the cry of the Book of Acts. It was a result of Holy Spirit descending and remaining and indwelling those who received Him, not only on the Day of Pentecost, but after that original experience.

So I bless us as we prepare ourselves to experience this great Day of Pentecost. Let us open our hearts wide to the complete and total purpose for which God is giving us the Holy Spirit to abide upon us and to dwell in us. I bless it to you, in the name of the Lord.

Amen.