

Releasing Spiritual Gifts

Course Description:

In this course, you will learn about the Holy Spirit – Who He is and what He wants to do in and through you. You will discover how to operate in the nine spiritual gifts discussed in I Corinthians 12, with the goal that you will eagerly desire, receive, and fan into flame those gifts as you enter a new life of supernatural living. (Prerequisite: REN103/503 Communion with God)

Course Texts:

Supernatural Living Through the Gifts of the Holy Spirit CDs and workbook by A.L. Gill

The Holy Spirit Today by Dick Iverson

The Holy Spirit and You book and study guide by Dennis and Rita Bennett

“How to Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit” by Mark and Patti Virkler

Course Objectives:

- You will quote the following Scriptures:
 - ✓ Acts 1:5, 8
 - ✓ I Peter 4:10, 11
 - ✓ I Corinthians 14:2-5
 - ✓ I John 4:1
 - ✓ Matthew 16:16
 - ✓ Luke 12:11, 12
 - ✓ Mark 11:22, 23
 - ✓ John 14:12
 - ✓ Mark 16:17, 18
- You will discuss the person of the Holy Spirit: His divine attributes, His activities, His Names and His symbols.
- You will biblically support the assertion that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a separate experience from salvation.

- You will define the word “baptize” and discuss what it means to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.
- You will discuss at least three purposes of speaking in tongues, with Scripture references.
- You will name and define the nine manifestation gifts of the Holy Spirit found in I Corinthians 12.
- You will state three categories of the gifts of the Spirit and the three gifts that generally fall into each category.
- You will discuss the Scriptural purpose for the gifts in general and of each gift individually and specifically.
- You will discuss at least three Scriptural principles for operating the gifts.
- You will discuss the distinction between the gift of tongues and the evidence of speaking in tongues received at the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- You will state the meaning of the Greek word *prophet-ia*.
- You will list seven tests of prophecy.
- You will discuss the three areas of spirit activity which may be distinguished.
- You will discuss four kinds of faith and how they come into our lives.
- You will discuss how the gifts work or are manifested together to produce God’s purposes.
- You will rejoice in the gift of the baptism in the Holy Spirit and receive with joy the evidence of speaking in tongues.
- You will regularly and often speak mysteries to God and edify your spirit through speaking in tongues as one powerful part of your prayer life.
- You will honor the nine gifts as God the Holy Spirit manifesting or revealing Himself among men.
- You will earnestly desire spiritual gifts, deliberately presenting yourself in faith to the Holy Spirit to manifest Himself through you.

Course Requirements:

1. You will listen to all CDs as assigned, following along and taking notes in the *Supernatural Living* workbook as you listen. Complete the exercises at the end of each lesson. These exercises **will be submitted** to your instructor, preferably as email attachments. If you are not able to send them by email, you should make a copy of your answers when you are instructed to submit them. The postal service is often slow and sometimes loses mail. Do not send your only copy! (NOTE: Your notes that you take in the workbook will **not** be submitted.)
2. Carefully read *The Holy Spirit and You* book and complete the study guide questions **as assigned**. (NOTICE: You will not be reading the chapters in order so you must follow the Assignment Schedule to read the right chapters in each lesson!) These answers **will be submitted** to your instructor, so follow the directions given in requirement 1.

NOTE: You will not be required to complete all of the exercises given in the Study Guide. However, especially if you are new to the baptism in the Holy Spirit and His gifts, you are encouraged to complete even those exercises that are not assigned. They will be a benefit to you.

In addition, at the end of each chapter is a section titled "In Action This Week." These exercises will not always be specifically assigned, but you are strongly encouraged to read them and follow the Lord's leading concerning completing them. Putting into action what you are learning is essential to having your life changed by the truth!

3. Carefully read *The Holy Spirit Today* **as assigned**, and complete the related exercises found here in your Student Notebook. (NOTICE: You will not be reading the chapters in order so you must follow the Assignment Schedule to read the right chapters in each lesson!) These answers **will be submitted** to your instructor, so follow the directions given in requirement 1.

NOTE: The author of this text gives many lists of Scripture references that demonstrate the points he is making, without actually writing out the verses. You would do well and are *strongly* encouraged to read each of the verses referenced. *At the very least*, be sure to look up any that refer to passages of Scripture that you are not familiar with.

Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, "C" or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least "B" (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a "B".

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, we are training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- "D"
 - Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
 - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- "C"
 - Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
 - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- "B"
 - Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
 - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- "A"
 - Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
 - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

4. NOTICE: It is possible that the three authors may disagree on minor points of their teaching, and you may even disagree with all three! Don't be overly concerned by this. When answering the discussion questions for the individual texts, give the answer reflecting the view of the author of that text, then, if you disagree with him, discuss why you disagree with your supporting Scripture. Unity of the Spirit and increasing His manifestation through us all is our goal – not unity of theology.
5. Earn at least a “B” on the tests (not the Self-Tests). The lesson objectives are the key to success on these tests.
6. Write a final paper and submit it in to your instructor after you complete Lesson Twelve. Include the following in your paper:
 - a) Part I: In this course, you will be taught how to open yourself to be used by the Holy Spirit in the manifestation gifts, and you will be encouraged to do so. Keep a diary of all the times that you recognize the gifts of the Holy Spirit being manifested throughout the time you are taking this course, whether through you or someone else.

- b) Part II: Select *at least* three of the times that you minister in one of the gifts to use as tools to help you grow in confidence and effectiveness in their use, by doing the following for each of the instances you choose:
 - 1) Describe the setting and circumstances in which you ministered the gift.
 - 2) Describe the gift and how it was manifested to you (i.e. were you actively seeking it or did Holy Spirit give it spontaneously; was it in a dream or sensed as a feeling; what did you say and do; etc.)
 - 3) How was it received by the one(s) you were ministering to? (Was it received? Was it confirmed? Were there visible, tangible immediate results? Did a word you gave call for action? If so, was it taken?)
 - 4) Follow up with the person(s) to whom you were ministering. Did they see effects of the gift in the weeks following? Were they obedient to any instructions the Lord gave through you? If so, what were the results?
- c) Part III: Take the information from Part II to the Lord in journaling and ask Him what He wants to teach you through the experiences.

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Assignment Schedule

Lesson One

Assignment to be completed:

If you have not already done so, read the Course Description, Course Objectives and Course Requirements given previously in this Student Notebook. This will give you an overview of what will be required of you and what you should expect this course to accomplish in your life.

Prayerfully read Chapters 1 and 2 of *The Holy Spirit and You* by Bennett and complete the “Questions for Private Home Study” from Chapter 1 of the Workbook and all exercises for Chapter 2, including both “Questions for Private Home Study” and “Small Group Discussion” questions. Remember that these answers will be submitted to your instructor so **do not** just write them in your book.

Prayerfully listen to *Supernatural Living Through the Gifts of the Holy Spirit* CD 1, following along and taking notes in Lesson One of the corresponding workbook. Complete the exercises at the end of the lesson in a way that can be submitted to your instructor.

Prayerfully read Chapters 1 – 6 of *The Holy Spirit Today* by Iverson, and complete the related exercises found here in your Student Notebook in a way that can be submitted to your instructor.

Memorize Acts 1:5, 8.

Complete and correct Self-Test One.

Begin keeping your diary (Course Requirement #6a).

Subjects to be explored:

Getting to Know the Holy Spirit

Related objectives:

- You will quote Acts 1:5, 8. (“for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now... 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.”)
- You will discuss the prerequisite to receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- You will discuss the person of the Holy Spirit: His divine attributes, His activities, His Names and His symbols.