**HOW TO RECEIVE/MINISTER THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**

(By Dr Abidemi Nwator)

Baptism in the **Holy Spirit** – to be totally filled to overflowing by the Holy Spirit; it is a separate experience from being born again

- it is also commanded by Jesus

Luke 24:49 -I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.

-You receive the power of God to be a witness for Jesus, to live a victorious Christian life

Acts 1:8 - But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

-the initial evidence of Holy Spirit baptism is the supernatural ability to speak an unknown language, an experience referred to as ‘speaking in tongues’, one of the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-4 - When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

=>you can receive directly by yourself as on the day of Pentecost (above) and as in Cornelius’ house below

Acts 10:44-46 - While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

-follow these steps to receive Holy Spirit baptism directly:

i. ask God

Luke 11:13 - If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

ii. believe that you receive

Mark 11:24 - Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

iii. begin to speak the words given by the Holy Spirit in your heart (Acts 2:1-4); -=>someone who is already baptised in the Holy Spirit can also lay hands on you to help you receive as in the case of Apostle Paul (helped by Ananias)

Acts 9:17 - Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

-the believers in Samaria (helped by Peter & John)

Acts 8:14-17 - When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

-the believers in Ephesus (helped by Paul)

Acts 19:6 - On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.