



part 2 of 2—

Helping a Child Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

by Lorraine Mastrorio

The Gift

The Baptism Is a Free Gift

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is not something a believer can earn. As you cannot earn salvation, so you cannot earn the baptism in the Holy Spirit. (See Luke 11:13.) It is a gift God the Father wants to give to every believer. (See Joel 2:28.)

The Baptism Gives You a Deeper Relationship with God

One function of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a deeper relationship with God. It is given to help each Christian know, obey, and love God more. (See John 16:14,15.)

The Evidence

Speaking in Unknown Tongues Is the First Sign

Speaking in a language you do not know as the Holy Spirit enables you is the first physical evidence that a Christian has experienced the baptism in the Holy Spirit. (See Acts 2:4; 10:44-46.)

The Holy Spirit Does Not Force Anyone

The Holy Spirit will not force any person to speak. He provides

the ability, but each believer must provide the willing use of his mouth. The Holy Spirit will not take control of a student. The student must give that control. (See 1 Corinthians 14:32.)



Speaking in Tongues Is Not Learned or Taught

Encourage the seeking student to speak what God gives him. Do not coach him with sounds or words. If students attempt to teach each other how to speak in tongues, gently explain that just as God makes each person unique and gives him or her various talents and abilities, so He gives each Christian the unknown language He chooses for that person. Each Christian should have the privilege and joy of speaking

forth the language God gives, not one that is learned.

What Happens Next?

Pray Daily

Encourage children who receive the Holy Spirit to daily take time to let the Holy Spirit pray through them in tongues. This "edifies" or builds up each believer. (See 1 Corinthians 14:4.)

Develop the Fruit

Remind the student who is baptized in the Holy Spirit that he can expect to see the fruit of the Spirit develop in his life. He should ask God to help him develop these character traits.

Use the Gift

Encourage the Spirit-filled child to be ready to be used by the Holy Spirit in ministry gifts the Holy Spirit chooses and gives. (See 1 Corinthians 12:7-11; Ephesians 4:11,12; and Romans 12:6-8.) Stress that the Holy Spirit controls the gifts and provides the ability. They are not earned nor are they provided for personal gain.

Spread the Joy

Finally, celebrate when a child is baptized in the Holy Spirit. Tell others and encourage the receiving child to tell others as well.

Questions for Further Study—

1. What is the primary function of the baptism in the Holy Spirit?
2. If a child attempts to teach another how to speak in tongues, how should you respond?
3. What steps should a child take once he is baptized in the Holy Spirit?



Radiant Life

This is just one of the many articles that are a click away on the Radiant Life website. Use the Radiant Life site as your teaching resource—24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Come visit us at www.radiantlife.org.