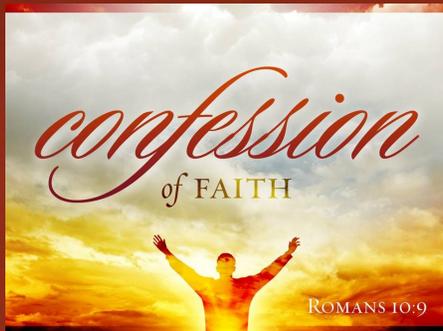


## What about believing? Is that enough?

- Believing is an important step in the plan of salvation and receiving the Holy Ghost.
- But Romans 10:9-10 explains it well, *“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*
- In this scripture setting we see that believing begins in the heart but then it takes your mouth confessing and receiving the evidence of the Holy Ghost to produce salvation.
- In Acts 19, we see the story of Paul meeting the disciples of John. He asks them a question in verse 2, *“He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?”*
- They were astonished and proclaimed that they had never heard of the Holy Ghost, but had only believed and been baptized according to the baptism of John the Baptist.
- And so we see in verse 6 that after Paul laid hands on them they received the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues.
- Believing is always the starting place, but it is not the evidence of salvation. That will come when your mouth makes an utterance inspired by the Holy Spirit.



## What are the benefits of receiving the Holy Ghost?

- First of all we see that it is the final step of salvation. This means that we begin our journey towards heaven.
- In Acts 1:8, Jesus told his disciples that the Holy Ghost would give them power and cause them to be witnesses.
- The Holy Ghost also produces joy, peace and righteousness in your life. (Acts 13:52, Romans 14:7, Romans 15:13)
- It is the greatest act of God's love in our lives. He gives sinful man the essence of His Holy Presence. (Romans 5:5)
- The Holy Ghost is our teacher and instructor that leads us into a greater understanding and revelation of the Word of God. (John 16:13, I Corinthians 2:13, I Corinthians 12:3)



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Receiving  
the Spirit of  
Christ

# RECEIVING THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST

## What is the Spirit of Christ?

- The Spirit of Christ is also known in the Bible as the Holy Ghost. It is the essence of God.
- I John 1:7 tells us, *“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”*
- In the Old Testament the Spirit of Christ is only seen resting UPON people, but could not be received inwardly. Here are some Old Testament examples of this: Judges 6:34, Judges 11:29, I Samuel 10:6, Ezekiel 11:5, I Peter 1:21.
- John 7:39 tells us the reason we could not receive the Spirit of Christ was because Jesus had to first be crucified and resurrected for the infilling of the Holy Ghost to take place.



## How did Jesus change our relationship with the Spirit?

- The Holy Ghost was the power that produced Jesus. **Matthew 1:18 & 1:20.**
- John the Baptist prophesied of Jesus as the One who would fill us with the Holy Ghost. **Mark 1:8, Matthew 3:11,** *“...he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire.”*
- In John 14, Jesus had a conversation with His disciples. In vs 18 He says, *“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”* Then He clarified even further that He and the Holy Ghost were one in vs. 26, *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things.”*
- We proclaim that Jesus is the Lord of our lives by the Holy Ghost. I Corinthians 12:3, *“and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.”*

## Do I need the Spirit of Christ to be saved?

- Yes, you need His Spirit for salvation to be complete in your life.
- Jesus conversed with a man by the name of Nicodemus in John 3.
  - Nicodemus asks Jesus what it takes to be saved. Jesus answers in vs 3, *“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*
  - Nicodemus misunderstood the concept and asks Jesus how he can enter the womb when he is old.
  - Jesus further clarifies the concept of being born again in vs. 5, *“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”*
- The problem is we have to stop asking if we “must” have the Spirit to be saved. Instead we need to submit ourselves to whatever God asks of us to be saved.

## How do I receive the Holy Ghost?

- Peter stood up on the Day of Pentecost and answered this question. Acts 2:38, *“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”*
- There are three steps according to this scripture
  - Repentance – II Corinthians 7:9-10, II Peter 3:9, I John 1:9
  - Water Baptism – Romans 6:4, I Peter 3:21
  - Receiving the Holy Ghost



## How will I know that I have received the Holy Ghost?

- In the Old Testament, Isaiah preached that we would have stammering lips and another tongue (Isaiah 28:11)
- When Jesus is talking to Nicodemus in John 3:8, He mentions that the Spirit will feel and sound like the wind.
- In Acts 2:1-4, we see the first outpouring of the Holy Ghost. In verse 2 we see that the wind spoken about in John 3:8 is fulfilled.
- But in verse 4 we see the evidence, *“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*
- The household of Cornelius in Acts **10:44-46**, *“While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.”*
- Paul testifies to the disciples of John in Acts 19:6, *“And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied.”*
- Remember that tongues are simply the evidence to you and others around you that you have received the Spirit of Christ into your lives.
- Do not focus on the issue of the evidence, but rather focus on obedience to whatever God asks of you to be saved.

