



EMPOWERED (part 1)

Allan Hamblin – June 11, 2017

*It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found **some disciples**.² He said to them, “**Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?**” And they said to him, “**No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.**”³ And he said, “**Into what then were you baptized?**” And they said, “**Into John’s baptism.**”⁴ Paul said, “**John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus.**”⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, **the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.**⁷ **There were in all about twelve men.***

Acts 19:1-7 (NASB)

Q: What prompted Paul to ask if they had received the Holy Spirit when they believed?

- We aren’t told, but Paul must have seen something irregular about them... **they weren’t plugged in and empowered!**

Q: Can you confidently say you’ve experienced His presence or His power in the last year? YES NO

Q: Do you even believe you can? YES NO

The Holy Spirit isn’t an ‘IT’. He is a ‘PERSON’!

The Holy Spirit has a **mind**. (Romans 8:27)

The Holy Spirit has an **opinion**. (Acts 15:28)

The Holy Spirit **communicates**. (2Peter 1:21)

The Holy Spirit experiences **grief**. (Ephesians 4:30)

The Holy Spirit can be **lied to**. (Acts 5:3)

The Holy Spirit can be **insulted**. (Hebrews 10:29)

The Holy Spirit is a **person**, He is **God**, and He is the One Who **Empowers New Life!**

*You, however, are not in **the realm of the flesh** but are in **the realm of the Spirit**, if indeed **the Spirit of God lives in you**. And if anyone does not have **the Spirit of Christ**, they do not belong to Christ.¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, **the Spirit gives life** because of righteousness.¹¹ And if **the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead** is living in you, **he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.***

Romans 8:9-11 (NIV)

How can you plug into this powerful new life God has for you?

- 1 Stop looking for a **Program**.
- 2 Start looking for a **Personal Connection**.
 - a. It starts with being **Born Again**. (John 3:3-8)
 - b. It grows by **Walking In Step** with Him. (Galations 5:16-25)

Challenge:

1. Examine your conversion. Did you surrender **totally** to Jesus?
2. Pray with someone who also wants to be “plugged in” and experience the empowered life God has for you. Ask the Spirit to lead you where He wants you to go.