

Fire Up

Topic/Theme: The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, Speaking in Tongues

Introduction

- Survey students on what they know about speaking in tongues
- Talk about how the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift
- Talk about how many Christians have a lot of questions about this topic

Stories

- Personal story on how you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- An example of how you received one of the benefits of the gift in your life
- An illustration of how Super Mario® obtains and uses fire power
- An illustration of how there are many languages on the earth
- Use the example of a dead battery needing to be re-charged and connect that with the human Spirit needing to be re-charged

Verses

- Acts 2:1-4
- Luke 24:49
- Jude 1:20
- Romans 8:26
- 1 Corinthians 14:2
- 1 Corinthians 13:14-15

Key Points

- The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a promised gift to all Christians
- The equation to receiving is believing, asking and receiving
- Just because your prayer language may sound different or weird does not make it fake
- Praying in tongues does not make sense to the mind and requires faith
- Praying in tongues doesn't make a Christian more saved and not praying in tongues doesn't make a person less saved
- There are many God intended benefits to receiving and practicing the gift

Message

Acts 2:1-4 NLT

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

*****Inform students that we will be talking about the baptism of the Holy Spirit*****

Survey the students to see who has heard of it, who has received it and who wants it.

*****Praying in tongues doesn't make you anymore saved or unsaved*****

Make sure this point is landed. There are two ditches, those that say you can't go to Heaven unless you pray in tongues and those that say you are more of a Christian if you do.

Remind students this is a separate, additional, subsequent experience to salvation. No more, no less.

Introduction

Have you ever lacked confidence before? Have you ever felt like you just didn't have what it took?

List different things they may have lacked confidence over:

- a. Trying out for the basketball team
- b. Talking to a girl
- c. Giving a speech in front of the class
- d. Being a witness for Jesus

Talk about climbing the rope in gym class, trying to kiss a girl for the first time, giving a class speech, trying to make an athletic team.

Many times you can feel like you lack confidence as a student.

Sometimes you don't want to take risks because there is a lot riding on your actions. You have a reputation to keep.

Have you ever lacked confidence with God?

Talk about times God would ask to use you and you didn't want to do it.

- a. Witnessing to someone
- b. Inviting your friends to youth group
- c. Laying hands on someone for healing
- d. Defending your faith

Sometimes as a Christian you just feel like you could use more power in your life. The disciples felt that way too.

Talk about how the disciples were excited to do what Jesus commanded them to do and grow the church and witness to people. But Jesus wouldn't let them go just quite yet.

Luke 24:49 NLT

"And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven."

Explain How the Disciples were feeling down because Jesus died and was leaving them. Then Jesus told them that he was going to give them power.

We are talking about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. It's something that only Christians can get. You must make Jesus your savior first. After you do that Jesus gives you power to be a witness for Him if you ask.

Acts 2:1-4 NLT

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit helps you be stronger more confident Christian and you can do more for Jesus. You have a CONFIDENCE that you didn't have before.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit Will:

1. Give you confidence
2. Refresh you
3. Help you pray better
4. It will give you power

I. It will refresh you

Talk about how we all get tired. How different things can wake us up. Energy drinks, caffeine. Talk about a car battery. Talk about how many times they feel good, they feel refreshed when they have been with God.

Jude 1:20 NLT

But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Talk about a time when you had a dead car battery. Talk about how it needed to be recharged. Connect that with how the human spirit needs to be refreshed and recharged and praying in the Spirit is like jumping a car battery.

II. It will help you pray better

Talk about how sometimes they feel like they don't know how to pray or what to pray. Praying in the Holy Spirit or praying in tongues will help them pray.

Romans 8:26 NLT

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.

Talk about a time when you wanted to pray for someone or something and felt like you didn't know how to pray or what details to pray. Give an example of a time praying in tongues helped you to pray.

III. It will give you power

Talk about how Super Mario is a pretty strong guy but when he gets the fireball capability he is unstoppable. Compare it to the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

SHOW SUPER MARIO FIREBALL CLIP

Power to witness
Power to perform miracles
Power to preach
Power to do what God has called you to do

Talk about how fire is used as a metaphor to illustrate the Holy Spirit

Share a story about more confidence came to preach, teach and witness once the gift was received

*****How many of you still can't get over how weird it sounds*****

Explain how the baptism of the Holy Spirit will allow you to speak in a different language from heaven. Survey how many students already do it.

Explain how it's not weird, just different. Ever heard a Spanish person or Asian person talk? Isn't it different to you? God is the God of all languages.

Have a few students that pray in tongues pray in their language in the microphone so the other students can see how everyone sounds different.

1 Corinthians 14:2 NLT

For if you have the ability to speak in tongues, you will be talking only to God, since people won't be able to understand you. You will be speaking by the power of the Spirit, but it will all be mysterious.

1 Corinthians 13:14-15 NLT

For if I pray in tongues, my spirit is praying, but I don't understand what I am saying. Well then, what shall I do? I will pray in the spirit, and I will also pray in words I understand. I will sing in the spirit, and I will also sing in words I understand.

Explain how this is something private and they don't have to do it in front of their friends. They don't have to be embarrassed.

HOW TO RECEIVE

1. Believe
2. Ask
3. Receive

Remind students that all gifts and promises from God are obtained through this formula.

Remind students that this is what they did to receive the gift of salvation and it's just as easy to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Make It Relevant

- Remind students of a time they heard someone from another country speaking in their language and how it may sound weird to them
- Remind students that though they may not understand a language, it doesn't make it unreal
- Confirm with the students how some of them struggle with praying and encourage them that the gift helps them pray
- Use the example of a dead battery needing to be re-charged and how praying in tongues helps to re-charge the human spirit

Conclusion

- Believe, ask and receive
- Have students come forward to receive
- (There are many methods for praying with students. They can have leaders pray with them or a general prayer can be prayed for students as they remain at their seats)

Challenge

- Have the students that want to receive the gift come forward for a time of prayer and ministry

Prayer of Salvation

- An even more important gift than praying in tongues is the gift of salvation