



Have You Been Filled with the Holy Spirit?

When talking with a Christian Brother recently he suggested that I read a short book entitled *Keys to the Deeper Life* by AW Tozer. I can happily say that I heeded his suggestion and immediately purchased it. It's a short 90-or so page book that contains some truly powerful insights. I may pass more along to you from time-to-time but thought you might want to ponder these questions and answers in the meantime.

Here's the question at hand ---

"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"
Acts 19:2

First of all, are you sure you want the Holy Spirit?

1. Are you sure that you want to be possessed by a Spirit Who, while He is pure and gentle and wise and loving, will yet insist upon being Lord of your life?
2. Are you sure you want your personality to be taken over by One:
 - a. Who will require obedience to the written Word?
 - b. Who will not tolerate any of the self-sins in your life: self-love, self-indulgence?
 - c. Who will not permit you to strut or boast or show off?
 - d. Who will take the direction of your life away from you and will reserve the sovereign right to test you and discipline you?
 - e. Who will strip away from you many loved objects which secretly harm your soul?

Unless you can answer an eager "Yes" to these questions you do not want to be filled. You may want the thrill or the victory or the power, but you do not really want to be filled with the Spirit. Your desire is little more than a feeble wish and is not pure enough to please God, Who demands all or nothing.

But, if the answer to those questions is "an eager Yes!" then...

The question "How can I be filled?" may be answered in four words, all of them active verbs:

1. Surrender (Romans 12:1-2)
2. Ask (Luke 11:13)
3. Obey (Acts 5:32)
4. Believe (Galatians 3:2)

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For those of you who do not know what I am talking about, please consider going through one of these two outstanding teaching sessions on this website:

[God in You – Unleashing the Power of the Holy Spirit in Your Life by Dr. Mark Hitchcock](#) Scroll down to Available Videos (1)

[You Have the Advantage by Pastor Philip DeCourcy](#) Scroll down to Available Videos (2)

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Book Excerpts taken from Keys to the Deeper Life – Revised and Expanded, A.W. Tozer, © 1957, 1984 by Creation House, pages 52, 55, 56