

# Complete in Christ

By Dianna Cudworth



Man was created in the image of God, to be in communion with God. Therefore, as a human being we have a built-in mechanism that desires that union. We are incomplete until that union is made. In our enlightened age, we try to fill the void with relationships, work etc. The emptiness we feel cannot be filled with anything other than God. We marry and want our spouse to make us happy. We have children and cling to our children wanting them to fill the void. We work long hours trying to give our life purpose. There is no purpose outside God. All our efforts are nothing but vanity. We try to control our own life and destiny, but we do not have the power to do so outside of God. A stroke can strike down the most powerful, the wealthiest, the most famous etc. To discover true happiness, joy and peace we must join our spirit with the Spirit of God. Only when we are one with God can we have any power over our own lives because all power belongs to God.

This all sounds good in theory, but how do we accomplish this. The first step is referred to as being saved or being born again. Salvation is a very separate experience to being filled with the Holy Spirit, also referred to as the indwelling of the Holy Spirit or the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Once we are saved or “born again” then we are ready to receive the Holy Spirit. If we surrender to the Holy Spirit to guide us and teach us, then we can realize the completeness we all desire in Christ Jesus our Lord. Only after receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and making the decision to believe

that the Bible is the Word of God did I find the peace I was seeking. My only question is why it took me so long. Why did I spend all those years being tormented by my emotions? It was the hardest thing I have ever done, yet it was the easiest thing I have ever done as well. It is a matter of being willing to give up the imagination that I was in control of my life and to trust God. I urge you if you have not made Jesus Christ your Lord to go to the “Salvation Prayer” and do so now. It is a leap of faith to believe that the Bible is the Word of God. Once you make that small step then the Word will direct your steps.

Christians talk about being saved all the time. I am often asked, “Is he saved?”. Salvation is a free gift from God. (*KJV Ephesians 2:8-9: For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*) To be saved all you have to do is believe through faith that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, born of woman, walked the earth as a man, performing miracles of healing and deliverance, was crucified an innocent man, died and was buried, and then was raised from the dead three days later by the awesome power of God. Once you make the choice to believe then you become a new creation (*KJV 2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*), you are born again into a spirit being with eternal life (*NKJ 1 John 5:1 1: Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God*). At that time, you are joined to the Lord by spirit.

Note there is a difference between being saved and being filled with the Holy Spirit or baptized in the Holy Spirit. It is the difference between having a glass of water and an ocean of water. As soon as you have made the choice to believe and to make Jesus Christ your Lord then you are ready to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, often referred to as the Holy Spirit.

The next step is to receive. It is important to understand that God has already given you the Holy Spirit. Without it, you could never be saved. You do not have to beg God for the Holy Spirit. It is His desire to give it to you. All you must do is receive it. In our homes we have facets which if we turn on water comes out. Receiving the Holy Spirit is like that faucet. We can shut the faucet off after filling a glass of water, a sink of water, a bath tub of water or we can flood the entire house by leaving the faucet open. The same goes for the Holy Spirit. The amount of filling of the Holy Spirit you receive is determined on how open you are to receive it. The Holy Spirit is received by faith and faith is now, today. It is a choice each one of us has to make. We can choose to continue living, although saved, our life as we always have knowing that we will go to heaven when our life on earth is over, or we can choose to have a little bit of heaven right here on earth. We need the Baptism of the Holy Spirit to walk in the power, the authority and anointing of God and according to His purpose and receive the fullness of God, which includes peace, prosperity and good health.

You need to be aware that once you choose to receive the Holy Spirit you are giving the car keys to God and allowing him to do the driving. You are giving the Master Bedroom to God and taking the guest bedroom. As human beings, we are often driven by fear. In order to receive the Holy Spirit, we must overcome that fear of the unknown. The sign God has given us to know with certainty that we have received the Holy Spirit is speaking in other tongues. (NKJ Acts 2:4: And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.") If we want to receive the Holy Spirit, we need to be willing and expect the Holy Spirit to move on our vocal organs and put supernatural words on our lips, which we

will have to speak out, our self in cooperation with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not just take control of us, we need to receive and come into agreement with the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit gives the utterance, but we must speak it. Speaking in tongues is cooperation between the Holy Ghost and us. God poured out His Spirit on the day of Pentecost and those receiving His Spirit began speaking in tongues as it is written in Acts 2:4. From that day forward the early church took the speaking in tongues as a sign that a believer had received the Holy Ghost. (NKJ Acts 10:45-46: And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.) Quite often, the speaker of tongues does not know or understand what he is saying. The language is a language of God and derives from our spirit. We are speaking to God spirit to Spirit. (NKJ 1 Corinthians 14:2: For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.) It is given to us to build us up in God Himself. (NKJ 1 Corinthians 14:4: He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself). One of the hurdles we must get over is understanding that it is a joint effort. The Holy Spirit will prompt us or give us the utterance, but we must do the speaking. A doubt that I had to overcome is that it was I doing the speaking and not God. Well, I am doing the speaking, but it is the Spirit of God that is giving me the utterance and I am just obeying and trusting God when I let the sounds come forth from my mouth. The Word of God says that I am a co-worker (2 Cor. 6:1) of God or in another verse; it states I am a fellow worker of God (1 Cor. 3:9). It is in union with God that I can speak in tongues.

Another fear that will keep us from being able to receive the Holy Spirit is the fear that we may receive an evil spirit instead, especially if we

are receiving the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands. After I was saved some well-meaning Christians warned me about receiving the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands because that is the way witches sometimes curse the believers and there is the danger of becoming possessed. Well, I decided to trust God, I was His child and I depended on Him to protect me from any evil spirits. That is what he has promised to do for us. In Luke 10:10 Jesus tells us that he gives us authority to trample on serpents and scorpions. He is talking about evil spirits. In Luke 11:12 Jesus assures us that if we ask our Father in heaven for the Holy Spirit, He will give it to us, He will not give us a serpent or a scorpion, evil spirits. (NKJ Luke 11:11-13: "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!") Trust the Lord with all your heart, lean not on your own understanding, and receive that precious gift of the filling of His Spirit. Do not let fear keep you in bondage!

It is the prayer of Jesus Christ that we become one with Him and one with God:

**"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You**

**in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.” NKJ John 17:20-23**

To be complete we must be in Jesus Christ or one with God. That is accomplished by making the choice to make Jesus Christ our Lord and receive the indwelling of the Spirit of God, becoming one with God by faith. Once I made the decision to believe that the Bible is the Word of God and it is truth, then it was not that hard to receive the promise as written in the Bible. Do not let the philosophy of this modern age or the deceits and traditions of men cheat you from becoming whole and complete in Christ.

**NKJ Colossians 2:8-10**

**Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.**