

Holy Spirit - The Posture of a Receptive Heart

Notice the word RECEIVED and RECEIVE

Act 8:14-19 ESV Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had **received** the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might **receive** the Holy Spirit, 16 for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid their hands on them and they **received** the Holy Spirit. 18 Now when **Simon saw** that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may **receive** the Holy Spirit."

- Received [**PASSIVE**] the word of God - baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus - so they were saved
- This receiving [**ACTIVE**] the Holy Spirit spoken of here is NOT speaking of their salvation
- Found people receptive to the word - prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit - laid hands on them

Receive - Active or Passive

VERSE 14 - G1209 passive - to have offered (what I get for my birthday)

VERSE 15,17 & 19 - G2983 Lambano to take or get hold of (what I get if I get money on my birthday)

The posture of a receptive heart

1) PERSISTENCE - Receiving [Lambano] implies Asking, Seeking and Knocking

Luk 11:9-13 ESV And I tell you, **ask**, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 11 What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; 12 or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!**"

- Like looking for a job...Maybe you've never asked, or have asked before and have given up on asking
- Maybe you have convinced yourself God does not want you to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit

2) FAITH - Asking in faith - not faith in faith, but faith in what God has said

Mat 21:22 ESV And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

Rom 10:17 ESV So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

- Maybe you have received teaching that is against the BHS - leads to unbelief - challenge to study

3) EXPECTATION

Act 3:3-5 ESV Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. 4 And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." 5 And he fixed his attention on them, **expecting to receive something** from them.

- Maybe you are afraid of what might happen, maybe there is pride, maybe you are conscientious

4) REST - Acknowledging this as a Gift from God

Joh 3:27 ESV John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.

At Cornelius' house Act 11:17 ESV If then **God gave the same gift** to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

SUMMARY

What prevents us from receiving? never asked or given up, bad doctrine, unbelief, fear, pride, conscientious