

Holy Spirit Baptism Notes with Dr. Steve Schell

Zoom Call 26 March 2025

For those who long to see a transformation in their life: their character, their morals, their families, their businesses, this is the path to that.

You have to address the confusion about the baptism with the Holy Spirit and ministering in the power of the Spirit.

Seminar on baptism with Holy Spirit

In November Steve did a 5-hour seminar on the baptism with the Holy Spirit. He gave the attendees a break every hour, and they had a break at lunch.

He talked about how to minister because the goal is not to teach you this but to train you to minister to others.

He taught things like:

- How do you lay hands on someone? You're allowing the Holy Spirit to come down on someone. I don't have to force something to happen. I'm there to assist.
- On the last hour, he asked how many would like more of the Holy Spirit in their life? He had 50 people to pray for. He had them come forward and had the people who had come to the seminar pray for those who wanted to receive because he had been training them during the seminar. They all started to minister to each other.
- The focus was HOW to minister the baptism, not that it's real and if for today. Those who come already believe it's real.

His First Session

On the first session (the first hour) Steve talked about:

How I came to understand the importance of the full gospel. In his church he had a lot of people who liked to come, but they weren't transformed. There was no conscience. Steve sought the Lord and asked, "What am I doing wrong?" the Lord said, "You don't understand the gospel."

Mt 28:18-20 It's not just a baptismal formula. The Lord was saying there are three separate baptisms, the baptism of the Father, the baptism of the Son, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The first is repentance, the second is believing by faith, and the third is the baptism of empowerment for service.

First, repentance: The miraculously transformed heart happens when a person FULLY surrenders to the God of the Bible with His morals and all that the Bible teaches. In the U.S. church people's hearts are often not changed because there is often no repentance.

Second, believing: We are joined to Christ. Then, the Holy Spirit. God pours out, but I must drink. I must receive it.

There's a divine side and a human side.

For people who have been Christians a long time, they need help. Years ago back at our church, we'd have a quiet worship team singing. Then when people were ready, they would come up or raise their hand for prayer.

When it's only a one-sided conversation, people have to be told God loves them all the time because they're not convinced.

On how to build a team of ministers

You need to teach them not just how to receive it but how to minister it.

On Sunday nights Steve would teach through 1 Corinthians 12-14 with his core committed Christian group so they could grow in ministry abilities. When someone was ill, those who came would pray for the person. Steve would coach them. In that way he built up a core of people so that when someone needed prayer, or a word of knowledge or healing, those trained were available to minister.

There are human responses when God shows up. The fleshly responses have to be STOPPED.

You need to have a service that has an orderliness to it. You'll have babes and weirdos. You can't just say, "Who's got a word?"

You have a service for the babes and the rest, but you have another service, a believer's meeting where you coach and train. Steve would let the Lord lead it. And he learned to test whether things were from the Lord, but Steve would follow.

You have to have a place for people being baptized in the Holy Spirit to have an opportunity to minister. Through that, people's faith grows.

This will require you to move in the Spirit and learn from your mistakes. You have to learn and listen to the Holy Spirit. The gifts of the Spirit are like a muscle. You have to be willing to step out in faith.

Other tips

Steve never did feel he knew how to preach. He was always struggling inside. That is a good place to be though.

You have to operate in integrity. Persistent immorality will grieve the Holy Spirit and He will leave the meetings. You have to be willing to pay the price: crucify your flesh, walk in integrity.

You must be prepared to be criticized by non-Pentecostal pastors. They feel badly. "Why doesn't God do that with me?" They have to discredit you, or they will have to change. Don't fight back from the pulpit. Stay focused.

Schedule regular opportunities for those who want to be baptized in the H.S. to get it. And for those who are to minister it.

Worship

Your worship is key. That's when He talks to you. There's song singing but what you want is the presence of the Lord where people are actually talking to Him. When it's so loud, the people just stand there and look. Create an appetite for the Presence. Steve would often talk about the bread and the wine. The wine is the Spirit. Coach your worship leaders so that the Lord's presence is able to come. You're lifting your eyes up.

Worship will be a great concern to you-does God's presence come? That's the key.

Expect the devil to try and stop you. He's a real opponent. But God is greater. I don't give him a foothold.

More on Training Leaders and Working with Other Pastors

Sit with the leaders, talk through your notes. Make sure they're in unity and that you've talked it through so you're one heart and mind.

If you can, practice beforehand possibly with what you will say at the conference.

Prayer

Prayer is like a hammer. It breaks open hard places. What we did at our church was provide a weekly prayer meeting for people who needed prayer to come and have 2-3 people lay hands on them and pray. They would listen to the need and then would pray in the Spirit and wait for the Lord's leading, and then they would pray what God showed them to pray. Not formula prayers-people would learn to pray in the Spirit until the Lord showed them what to pray, then they would pray for the individual.

People who are ministering are afraid. They don't know how to do it. Then the Lord gives them a word of knowledge or something and it's right on. When that begins to click, then they get excited. What you're doing is you coach people, then you have the coaches coach people.

For Training

Steve recommended the book *Doing What Jesus Did* by John and Sonia Decker. A good resource.

About you as a Pastor

It takes a person to build a church even though it's not founded on a man. I have to accept that I'm the person to carry and shepherd the people.

Steve's Encouragement to You

Stay on track. You're laying a foundation in a tough place. God knows the key to every lock. You pray and He will open it.

At the conference, open with your testimony, use your message where the Lord has given it to you-the royal priesthood- include that. This is a vision for our city among a community of churches, a foundation of prayer is a crucial part. That's a key. You're casting a vision of your city: people moving in the Spirit, etc.