**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

**Topic: How to Lead a Person to Receive Baptism in the Holy Spirit…with the evidence of speaking in Tongues.**

**Trainer: Cass Tompich and Allen Steel**

**Memory Verse** **Ephesians 5:18** (NLT)

*“Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, let the Holy Spirit fill and control you.”*

**1.0 Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

* Desiring the baptism is important for receiving it.
* If someone is double-minded as to whether they want the baptism it is unlikely they will receive it. It will be important to lead this person to a place of desiring the gift.
* The early disciples displayed this desire in the upper room where they prayed for 10 days before the Holy Spirit was poured upon them (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8, 14; 2:1). We need to be constantly filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).
* Some lack desire due to uncertainty of the difference between the filling of the Holy Spirit and the salvation experience. A glance at the book of Act's will show this difference quickly, see Acts 8:2 cf Acts 8:15-17; Acts 19:2; Acts 9:5-9 cf Acts 9:17; Acts 1:5 cf Acts 2:4.
* Others lack desire due to past failures to receive from God. Fear of failure to take hold of God's blessing can be a major obstacle. Seek to allay their fears. Encourage their faith. Faith won’t give up until it sees in the natural what it has received in the spiritual (Luke 11:13)

**2.0 Baptism in the Spirit and Faith**

* With simple trust and commitment, people **will** receive.
* Jesus is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit (John 1:33), not us. We may do the laying on of hands but Jesus does the work. People need to be encouraged to take their eyes off you and to receive from Jesus Himself.
* God is very willing to give (Luke 11:13).
* Start by asking Jesus to Baptise the person and to show you what to do.
* Praying in tongues is a co-operation between our spirit and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit inspires our brains with the pattern the prayer language and we (in faith) activate our vocal chords by adding sound. As we learn to make the connection between the leading of the Holy Spirit and the physical result of speaking a new language, we learn a great lesson in co-operation with the Holy Spirit, which can be applied to the whole of our life and ministry.
* Encourage people that, having asked, they will receive. And having received, they will then have the **ability** to speak in a new language. Encourage them also to expand there use of this new skill of “faith in action”.

**3.0 Baptism in the Spirit and Understanding Tongues**

* A big obstacle for many people, particularly in our western culture, is the nature of tongues. How will God enable me? Will I understand it? How can I speak a language I have never learned? Will God be doing the speaking? How will I know it's real?
* For some, a hard thing to accept is that their new tongue will not make sense, but rather, will sound like gibberish.
* The teaching that is required here can be taken from the account in Acts 2:4.

**Who began to speak?**… They did.

God doesn't take your tongue and waggle it. He doesn't make the air go over your vocal chords to make the sounds. No, you do the speaking. Praying silently may be fine but you will never speak in tongues unless you first **speak**. Speak in English, get used to the sound of your own voice.

**What did the Spirit do?…** He gave them the ability.

Did you ask to be baptized in the Spirit? Did Jesus answer you? Then what has the Spirit done already? He has given you the **ability** to speak in a new language. Notice, the Spirit doesn't teach you a new language, He gives you a new ability. You are able to do it. But it is you who speaks it. There must come a time when the person receiving ceases speaking in English but keeps on speaking nonetheless. This will never make sense. Tongues is an activity of the spirit not the intellect.

**4.0 Baptism in the Spirit and Feelings**

* Experience varies. Receiving the Baptism may be accompanied by all manner of physical and emotional experiences but may be accompanied by none.
* Using the evidence, namely speaking in tongues, is a very natural expression. The Holy Spirit never forces the believer to speak. Emotion may, but don't attribute the working of the Spirit to emotion. God doesn't over-ride your will (1 Corinthians 14:32).

**5.0 Praying for someone**

**5.1 Laying on of hands**

Believe that as you lay your hands on the person, God will impart His gift through you.

**5.2 You pray in tongues also**

Let people see you are not afraid of the sound of your own voice. Put the focus on Jesus not on their voice. Be rejoicing and thankful. You receive also.

**5.3 Give instruction if necessary**

Many people need don't know what to expect or how to respond to the Spirit.Lead them if they need to be led. Encourage people that you are not set back by nothing happening in the first 5 minutes.

**5.4 Listen to them as you pray**

Get them to pray loud enough that you can hear them. When they start speaking their new tongue, encourage them! Let them know that's it! It will bolster their enthusiasm and faith. Keep praying after having received.

**5.5 Praying in large groups can be very threatening for some**

Be aware that some people may feel pressure to perform. Some people need a quiet one-to-one session where you pray and encourage there. Especially if they are the only one who is seeking the experience.

**5.6 Be Sensitive**

If someone has had enough do not force them. Encourage them that they have received the ability and to keep pushing forward until it becomes an evident fact.

**5.7 Exercising the gift**

After receiving, instruct them to use their gift every day. God gave it to them for a purpose (1 Corinthians 14:4). They need not understand it or feel it, they just need to trust God and use His good gift.

6.0 Group Discussion Questions

* **I prayed in tongues briefly some time ago. I lost fit! What happened?**

Exercise the gift, let it grow, deal with doubt from the enemy.

* **1 Corinthians 14:19, 28 Paul seems to restrict the use of tongues. Why?**

Context is in the church !!!!!. *Illustration: private prayer language & the public gift.*

* **I don't speak in tongues! Do I have the Holy Spirit?**

You are filled with the Holy Spirit at conversion but you may not be overflowing with the expression of His presence. *Illustration: full tumbler / overflowing tumbler*.

* **It hasn’t happened before when people prayed for me! Why will it be different this time?**

Ask the group .... "*What hinders people from coming through in tongues*?”

Sense of unworthiness

Lack of knowledge

Fear of losing control

Emotional blockages in the person

Wrong attitudes to others

Doubts about the gift

Ignorance of our personal will (Ask, Believe, Thank Him)

Do they need to make/remake a commitment to Jesus Christ?

* **Can a person with a sinful lifestyle (homosexual, defacto relationship) be filled with the Holy Spirit?**

Acts 5:32, Romans 1:5, Acts 2:38 Obedience, Accepting the Word of God.