

Introduction

Welcome to UNLEASHED! We believe Jesus is coming soon. That's why this year's 10 Days of Prayer theme is all about inviting the Holy Spirit to transform our lives and our world. Join us as we seek God for 10 days of Spirit-led revival.

Before He died, Jesus promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to His followers: "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth" (John 14:16, 17). Later, just before leaving this earth to prepare a place for us in eternity, Jesus commanded His disciples to stay in Jerusalem and "wait for the Promise of the Father," which was the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4, 5).

However, this promised Gift is still largely unopened by God's people. We talk about this Gift. We study and analyze this Gift. But too often we never get around to opening this Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Without a doubt, only the Holy Spirit can renew our sinful hearts: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you" (Ezek. 36:26).

Only the Holy Spirit can transform our children: "I will pour out My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring" (Isa. 44:3).

And only the Holy Spirit connects us to God's heavenly family: "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God" (Rom. 8:16).

Best of all, God is more than willing to give us the Holy Spirit: "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!" (Luke 11:13).

The promise is already there, waiting for us to claim it. Ellen White writes, "If all were willing, all would be filled with the Spirit. Wherever the need of the Holy Spirit is a matter little thought of, there is seen spiritual drought, spiritual darkness, spiritual declension and death." She also asks, "Since this is the means by which we are to receive power, why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it?" (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 50).

The indwelling Holy Spirit fills us with the Father's love and empowers us to be fearless and effective witnesses for Christ. Why not ask for this Gift?

Watch the Ground Tremble

In 1 Samuel 14 we find the inspiring story of Jonathan and his armor bearer. While his dad, King Saul, was doing nothing under a pomegranate tree, Jonathan and his faithful armor bearer stepped away from their safe-zone to reach for the glory of God. The Philistine army had been terrorizing Israel; now their huge army was encamped across a deep gorge, waiting to engage Israel in battle.

Moved by faith in God, Jonathan and his armor bearer scrambled down into the gorge and up the steep cliffs on the other side to face the enemy army alone. Fearlessly, these two warriors faced the Philistines with the strength of the Lord. They battled the entire garrison of soldiers, and God Himself intervened. The Bible says a "trembling of God" rattled the camp, field, and all the people (1 Sam. 14:15, *Young's Literal Translation*). It was Jonathan's faith that gave God a reason to make the ground tremble before these two young heroes. If God had not intervened by providing an earthquake, Jonathan and his armor bearer would have been easily defeated.

God still moves the earth today. Join us in praying, "O God, what would give You a reason, 10 days in a row, to make the ground tremble?"

Two thousand years ago about 120 believers pressed into a room on the second floor of a home above the crowded streets of Jerusalem. They dared to believe in Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit. They dared to obey Jesus' command to wait for this Gift (Acts 1, 2).

So they gathered, and they waited. And when the Holy Spirit was poured out at Pentecost, the believers were unleashed as living witnesses to the resurrected Savior, Jesus Christ! They loved their families and their family of faith like never before. They gave sacrificially like never before. They stood up and dared to speak up for Christ like never before.

The Holy Spirit loves to work from the inside out! We invite you to experience 10 Days of Prayer not as a program but as a new lifestyle.

UNLEASHED! includes three daily sections:

1. Time Alone with God

Begin each of the 10 days in private prayer and Bible study.

2. Family/Friend Circle

Invest the time to gather your family or friendship circle in daily prayer.

3. Church Family

Join your church family for a multi-generational daily prayer session.

Gather your friends, church members, coworkers, youth, and children of all ages for 10 days of spiritual revival. It's time to be fully unleashed by the Holy Spirit again!