You can be filled with the Holy Spirit

**Experience the infilling of the Holy Spirit**

**Monday**

Read Exodus 23:14-17, Deuteronomy 16:1-17, John 19:4, Acts 2:1

Study the 3 Jewish festivals. **Journalize** the significance of Jesus dying during the 1st festival and the Holy Spirit being poured out during the second festival.

**Tuesday**

Read Acts 2:1, John 17:23, Ephesians 1:10, Ephesians 4:3, Psalms 133

To be filled with the Holy Spirit, it is vital for you to be in unity other Christians. **Mediate** on this reality.

**Wednesday**

Read Acts 2:2-4, Mark 16:17, Acts 10

The Bible is clear that when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will pray in other tongues. **Study** these scriptures and **ask** God any questions you have.

**Thursday**

Read Acts 19:1-7, 1 Corinthians 14:39, John 3:8, Psalms 104:4

As the Holy Spirit fills you, **don’t stifle** His influence in your life.

**Friday**

Read Acts 2:5-14, 1 Peter 3

As you are filled with the Holy Spirit, people will definitely notice. **Take the opportunity** to tell them what God is doing for you.

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**Acts 2 New International Version (NIV)**

**2**When the day of Pentecost came,

Pentecost - one of three Jewish holidays explained in the Law given by Moses from God to the Israelites after they left Egypt. Each of the 3 holidays was a week long celebration. They had been slaves for 400 years, and they had no idea what it was to rest and be able to take a break. So God gave them the Sabbath and 3 week-long holidays. (Exodus 23 and Deuteronomy 16)

1. Festival of unleavened bread - Passover
2. Festival of harvest or Festival of weeks - Pentecost
3. Festival of ingathering

Interestingly, God gave them times of celebration before they ever became farmers or had a single harvest. God tells us to rejoice and relax before He answers our prayers as well.

The Passover celebrated the Jewish rescue from slavery. They didn’t have time to bake bread properly. That’s why they referred to the festival as that of unleavened bread. But they also called it the “Passover.” “Passover” depicts how the death angel “passed over” the Jews because through God’s instruction they had each killed a lamb and put its blood on the doorframe of their homes.

Generally, this took place in early April.

The Festival of weeks celebrated their first harvest. This was 7 weeks after the Passover. That is why this they also called this holiday the “festival of weeks.” The greek word Jews used for this holiday was Pentecost which means ’50’…50 days after Passover. During these 50 days they had started and completed the barley harvest and they were just starting the wheat harvest. Generally this holiday took place in late May or early June. Once in the promised land, the Jews were to come to the temple with first fruits and celebrate.

The festival of the ingathering commemorated the second and last annual harvest and took place in fall.

Look at how God works. Providentially, Jesus died on the very day of the Passover. He is the lamb that was slain for us, so that we would be rescued from slavery, and have “death” passover us and because we have been given eternal life.

John 19:14 New International Version (NIV)

**14**It was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about noon.

“Here is your king,” Pilate said to the Jews.

After his death, Jesus was resurrecting and the 50 day count down began to the day of Pentecost (the first harvest) and Jesus revealed himself physically to his followers for 40 days.

Acts 1:3 New International Version (NIV)

**3**After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

For 9-10 days after Jesus is taking up to heaven, the disciples wait and pray for the baptism of the Holy Spirit as Jesus instructed them.

Acts 1:4-5 New International Version (NIV)

**4**On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. **5**For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with[b] the Holy Spirit.”

This is where we find the disciples…waiting on the promise of the Holy Spirit. They were about to have their celebration of their first harvest…the festival of Pentecost…but in a whole new and different way.

**Acts 2:1** When the day of Pentecost came, they (the disciples) were all together in one place.

For us to be filled with the Holy Spirit together, God is really looking for unity.

**John 17:23 New International Version (NIV)**

**23**I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

**Ephesians 1:10 New International Version (NIV)**

**10**to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

**Ephesians 4:3 New International Version (NIV)**

**3**Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

**2**Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3**They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **4**All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

My first experience being filled with the Holy Spirit when I was 11 years old.

**John 3:8 New International Version (NIV)**

**8**The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

**Psalm 104:4 New International Version (NIV)**

4 He makes winds his messengers,

    flames of fire his servants.

**Mark 16:17 New International Version (NIV)**

17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues;

**Acts 10:44-46 New International Version (NIV)**

**44**While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. **45**The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.**46**For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

**Acts 19 New International Version (NIV)**

**19**While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples **2**and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

**3**So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?”

“John’s baptism,” they replied.

**4**Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” **5**On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6**When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.**7**There were about twelve men in all.

**1 Corinthians 14:39 New International Version (NIV)**

**39**Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.

Jerusalem was packed with Jews from all over the world, celebrating Pentecost.

**5**Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. **6**When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.

**1 Corinthians 13:1 New International Version (NIV)**

**13**If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

**7**Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? **8**Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? **9**Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10**Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome **11**(both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” **12**Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”

**13**Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

**14**Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

The first disciples enjoyed celebrating that Pentecost by being filled with the Holy Spirit…call it the first harvest, (after Peter addresses the crowd 3,000 people were saved!) As you continue to read in Acts, you find thousands upon thousand more are saved by the power of the Holy Spirit. It was the first harvest!

It’s curious though, if you read the book of Acts, it ends abruptly in chapter 28. You want to know why? Because we are the rest of the story!

Remember there is a third celebration yet to be experienced, the second and last harvest. The harvest as we approach the end times: the festival of the ingathering! A mighty harvest of massive proportions and I believe we are going to be a part of that.

I believe El Paso is primed and ready to be the epicenter of a revival that the whole world will hear about. Let’s prepare by having our souls filled with the Holy Spirit.