

Would you like to hear the Good News?

God still loves you. He never stopped loving you. He loved you so much that He sent His Son Jesus to bring you back. All you have to do is let Him bring you back. Will you pray with me?

"Lord Jesus... I want to stop trusting in myself...and what I can do...and start trusting in you...and what you have already done...when you died for me on the cross. I know that! am a sinner...and I am sorry for my sins. I ask you to forgive me...I believe you rose again...and I invite you to come and live inside of me. I want you to be my Savior and Lord...which means being #1 in my life. I want to repent and turn away...from everything you and the Bible call sin...and I totally commit myself... to obeying you...every day, for the rest of my life. Lord Jesus baptize me in your precious Holy Spirit. Thank you Jesus."

Now that you have made peace with God, He is ready for you to begin to grow in a personal relationship with Him.

Receiving More of Jesus? "The Baptism in the Holy Spirit"

Who is the Holy Spirit? He is God. You might ask, "If the Holy Spirit is God, and Jesus is God, and the Heavenly Father is God, are there three Gods?" No. There is only one God as stated earlier. But God is unified as One and exists in the three Persons of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This threefold nature of God is exhibited even in creation. Humans have a body, a mind, and an eternal spirit. Our mind is not our body. Our spirit is not our mind. Are we then three people? No. We are just one person with three manifestations.

After we receive eternal life through confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior, we can also receive what the Bible calls the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. The purpose of this Baptism is to be anointed like Jesus and do the works that He did. Through this Baptism we receive the power of God, the supernatural fruit of the Holy Spirit, and the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, long-suffering, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). We receive these supernatural capabilities in our lives when we receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Some of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are listed in 1 Corinthians 12. Through the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, God distributes these great gifts to each one individually as He wills for each situation (1 Corinthians 12:8-11).

Would you like to receive this great gift?

Yes No

Throughout the New Testament, the Bible shows the manifestations of the gifts after receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Initially the gift of utterance, a language not previously known to the person is received, or interpretation of tongues, or prophesy. The gifts of power are faith, healings, or miracles. The gifts of revelation are also available: word of knowledge, word of wisdom, or discernment of spirits, or any combinations of these gifts. The Holy Spirit will manifest His presence differently at different times depending on which gift or gifts are needed at that time.

Do you believe these things?

Yes No

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is received by faith just as salvation is received. Pray the following prayer or one similar to it.

Dear Heavenly Father. I believe You are the source of all love and power. I ask right now for the gift of the Holy Spirit. I have faith in You, and that You will give me this great gift. Because I have asked, I believe I have now received the Power of God, the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in my life. I have received all these wonderful gifts by faith. I also ask that You will show me how to use these gifts for Your glory by Christ Jesus. I pray now thanking you in the name of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. Luke 11:13

Do you believe you have received these great gifts?

Yes No

You have received these gifts. You should begin to use these gifts now that God has given you



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"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony." **Revelations 12:11**

Establishing New Priorities



Jim Ayres

My name is Jim Ayres. I am a licensed funeral director who resides in Commerce, Texas. I received my B.S. in education in 1984 from West Texas State University, and a M.A. in Religious Education from Southwestern Seminary in 1988. After a 22 year career in ministry and teaching, I found myself back in school in 2010 to earn an Associate's Degree in Mortuary Science to answer God's call to the funeral industry. My wife, Teena, and I purchased the Commerce Funeral Home and Cremation Service in 2015. I would like to tell you my story.

My father was a very well respected Air Force officer, moving up the ranks very quickly. My mother was doing her best to play the part of an

officer's wife, attending parties at the officer's club and raising three young children. I have a few vague memories of living on base, playing in the common area of the base housing with the children from other military families, while all of the mothers sit in a tight circle and swap stories about being a military wife and mother.

In 1969, my father had an opportunity to pilot the latest and greatest fighter jet our country had to offer-the F4 Phantom. I've always heard that a pilot is a rare breed. The aircraft that a pilot commands takes on an identity of its own; like the "other woman" in a marriage. My father volunteered for a second tour in Viet Nam; his chance to pilot the F4. Before he left, he told my mother that his priorities were the Air Force, her, the children, and he wasn't even sure there was a God. My mother told him to go, but she didn't promise she and his children would be there when, or if, he returned.

While my father was serving his second tour in Viet Nam, my mother, siblings, and I made our home in Pampa, Texas, a panhandle town. My grandparents had lived there for forty years. My father was born and raised there. My grandparents became our rock as events unfolded over the next several years. During our time in Pampa, my family and I attended church with my grandmother at the First Christian Church, where she was a lifelong member. These are my first memories of developing an awareness of God and His love for me. I still remember the smell of the sanctuary and the vibration caused by the substantial pipe organ as I sat in the pew between my mother and grandmother.

Then, as the saying goes, in an instant my life changed forever. On January 3, 1971, in the early morning hours, there was a knock on the door of our modest home on Wells Street. The scene so many have observed in the movies or on television became reality for this eight year old boy. Two uniformed officers were tasked with delivering the devastating news to yet another family that the unpopular war in Southeast Asia had claimed another husband and father. Lt. Col. James Henry Ayres was Missing in Action. The brief letter stated that his wingman observed a fireball explosion as the jet my father was piloting made its approach on an enemy target. No further communication was recorded. He was 33 years young.

For the 25 years following that day, I grasped at whatever I could to retain any sense of structure in my world. As a typical middle child, I took it upon myself to be the peacekeeper in our home. I worked hard to make sure things were as easy on my mother as possible. My main coping skill became doing everything in my power to be the best at whatever I was involved in. In my mind, this meant I was doing everything I could to be invisible and not add to my mother's stress level. I also believed, subconsciously, that if I looked good on the outside, everyone would think things were okay on the inside.

As I grew older, this coping skill became true of my relationship with God. When I was in fourth grade, about a year after my father was declared MIA, my mother, siblings and I were attending a little Southern Baptist church in Amarillo, Texas. During a revival meeting, my brother, who is two years older than me, and I walked the aisle in response to the invitation to receive Jesus Christ as our Savior. Looking back, I know that I simply walked the aisle because my brother did. I do not believe I truly understood what was taking place when I followed my brother down the aisle. I married in 1981; barely 19 years old. My

OUR VISION is based on a vision that God gave to a businessman-a dairy farmer. In that vision, he saw hundreds of despondent men who felt they had no chance of making it in the world. Then they heard a message of hope and they came alive! Their heads held high; they were transformed into productive men with dignity and purpose.

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR OUR FELLOWSHIP

- To reach men everywhere for Jesus Christ with the same social, cultural or business interests.
- To call men to God: to help men become born again, baptized in the Holy Spirit, operate in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- To mentor young men who have never had a positive male role model by being a spiritual father to them.
- To provide a basis of fellowship among all men everywhere, regardless of church affiliation.
- To bring about a greater measure of unity and harmony in the Body of Christ.
- To train and equip men to succeed in the business world.

Learning about Business

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