

Alpha Course
Session 10: How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit?
Pastor Andy Smothers

Today, I invite you to form pairs and to pray for one another. This sheet is intended to guide you through that process. I invite you to spread out around the room so that you might be comfortable praying aloud for one another.

I further invite you to take a few minutes to ask one another if there are particular items for which you could pray for the other person. We'll include these in the latter portion of the prayer because God desires us to take these things to him and refraining from doing so can be a roadblock to God's work in our lives. List them here in brief form...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

You're also going to pray that one another receive the Holy Spirit. In Romans 8:9, Paul writes, "9 But you do not live as your human nature tells you to; instead, you live as the Spirit tells you to—if, in fact, God's Spirit lives in you (*GNB*).” This is evidence that some have the Holy Spirit while others do not.

Think about what you might pray for your partner in regards to the Spirit. Some possibilities might be (with room to add your own)...

- That they would **long for the Spirit**
- That they would **receive the Spirit**
- That any **hostilities or discomforts** toward the Spirit might be eliminated
- That they would **be informed of and about the Spirit**
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You might ask your prayer partner whether they think there is anything that might be standing in the way of their receiving the Holy Spirit.

- Does it cause them anxiety or fear?
- Does it feel like they might be letting go of some control over their lives?

(over)



When you complete this exercise, you might form your prayer with the words below, but feel free to use your own words. Speak in your own words and voice for portions you make up. Prayers don't need to have flowery, theological language. You're speaking to one who loves you, knows you deeply, and desires to hear from you. I have included some scripture within what I provide as it helps focus us on what God intends and helps remind us of his promises.

{opening}

Loving God, to you belong all praise and glory. We remember the words of our Lord Jesus who says, "Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they will eat with me."¹ We gather as two or three in Jesus' name, and we invite Jesus into our lives. We, also, know that our Lord promised to send an Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to guide us upon his departure. We pray today asking the Holy Spirit to enter each of us to guide us, to correct us, to minister to us, and to encourage us. Come, Holy Spirit, come.

{each of you can share your particular prayers for the other **regarding the Holy Spirit** here}

Fill your servant with your Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit, come.

We, also, come before you with requests — that you might address concerns in our lives great and small to free us for your work and open us to your word and Spirit.

{share your hopes of **how God might address your partner's needs** listed on the reverse side}

Gracious God, John testifies in your scriptures, "¹⁴We have courage in God's presence, because we are sure that he hears us if we ask him for anything that is according to his will. ¹⁵He hears us whenever we ask him; and since we know this is true, we know also that he gives us what we ask from him."² We trust that you have heard our voices and ask that you would align our will with your will. Thank you for hearing us. Come, Holy Spirit, come. We pray this in the name of our Lord Jesus the Messiah. Amen.

¹ Revelation 3:20, *GNB*.

² 1 John 5:14-15, *GNB*.





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