

The Power of the Holy Spirit by Charles Stanley

Acts 1:4-8

Have you ever felt inadequate to live the Christian life? If so, then you are exactly where God wants you to be, because you have discovered a vital truth: No one has the power in him- or herself to live a holy life. We are all in the same boat, but there is someone else with us who has the power we need—the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus gave His disciples the task of preaching the gospel to the entire world, they had absolutely no ability to carry it out. That's why He told them to wait until the Holy Spirit came. In the same way, if we hope to accomplish what God desires in our life, we need to live with full dependence on the third Person of the Godhead.

The power of the Spirit is God's divine energy and authority released in believers' lives for the purpose of righteous living and fruitful service. When we walk in the Spirit, we're relying on His strength to accomplish God's will. As a result, we experience the following benefits:

- *We may get tired, but we won't burn out.*
- *We'll trust God instead of trying to manipulate our circumstances.*
- *We may experience distress, but we won't become desperate.*
- *We won't become overwhelmed with discouragement or obstacles, knowing the Spirit within us will enable us to do what He's called us to accomplish.*

When we do God's work by His strength, in His way, and with His wisdom, we'll be blessed no matter what goes on around us. Walking in the Spirit doesn't mean life will be easy—but we never have to walk through it alone, because our Helper is always with us.

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