

How to Conduct Holy Ghost Ministration

“Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost”
(Acts 8:14-17).

God has called us to be “Fishers of Men” and “Harvesters.” As we endeavor to preach and witness, we need to believe God for the results of a great catch of fish and a bountiful harvest.

When preaching, we need to realize we will get what we are fishing for. We get what we preach. If you preach “Healing” then expect someone to be healed. “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God” (Romans 10:17). After time in prayer and careful study, coupled with preaching under the anointing, we can expect to see God move with signs following.

If you preach about the Holy Ghost outpouring expect people to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The emphasis of preaching and teaching are to be centered around the needs of the local assembly.

In Holy Ghost ministration, each altar worker must remember they are not the Holy Ghost baptizer; Jesus is. You cannot force the Spirit into someone. Applying pressure to a seeker’s forehead may cause more of a headache than heart relief through receiving the Spirit. Knocking someone down on the floor will likely end in the seeker getting his clothes dirty, not in becoming a new creature in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

In our services we need to create an atmosphere for God to move. God loves worship and inhabits the praises of His people. Praise, prayer, and worship will bring the presence of God into the church. We must proclaim liberty because, “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” (2 Corinthians 3:17). Receiving the Holy Ghost will be the end of bondage and the beginning of joy.

Ministry Tips

The following tips will assist you in conducting Holy Ghost ministration in your church.

- Give the Word of God preeminence (place of importance) in your services.
- Be anointed in preaching.

- Do not preach too long.
- Reserve enough time in your service for people to come forward to receive the Holy Ghost.
- Design your service around the seeker.
- Before the altar call, people who need the Holy Ghost can raise their hands to indicate they want it; and then you can invite them forward.
- Make it clear they will speak in tongues or words they will not understand.
- Speaking in tongues is the initial evidence of receiving the Holy Ghost. It happens every time.
- Other indicators that the person is about to receive the Holy Ghost is stammering lips; weeping; a loss of control of their language; being lost in the Spirit; falling out in the Spirit. These are not evidences of the Holy Ghost baptism but hints to you concerning what is about to happen.
- Give priority prayer to those who are on the verge of breaking through to the Holy Ghost.
- Look and see what God is doing and where He is moving and respond accordingly.
- Separate those who receive the Holy Ghost from the others.
- This also encourages those baptized to realize they have received the Holy Ghost and gives you a chance to deal with the others. (This advice is for large groups of people praying for the Holy Ghost.)
- Those seeking the Holy Ghost need to stand or sit on a chair. Kneeling and lying on the floor make it difficult for you to pray with them.
- Organize large groups coming to the altar in such a way that it will be easy to reach out to pray for them.
- Lay your hand on the seeker's head; not other parts of the body.
- The steps to Jesus always begin with genuine repentance. The first word from both John the Baptist and Peter was, "Repent!" (Matthew 3:2; Acts 2:38).
- Do not keep the altar service too long.
- Make sure you have clean breath.
- Do not yell in people's ears.
- Do not shake them and slap them under the chin.
- Encourage other saints to pray with seekers or to worship. The Holy Ghost comes when the people are in one accord.
- "Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). The Holy Ghost comes from the belly not the head. The belly is the very center of our being.
- Make it clear; "The promise is unto you" (Acts 2:39).
- Count and reveal to the congregation the number of those who have received the Holy Ghost in the service. This increases faith and allows the church to know God is moving in their midst.
- If you ask for those who received the Holy Ghost to identify themselves, make sure you mention "speaking in tongues" are words you do not understand. You may ask, "How many spoke in words you did not understand?"
- A praying, evangelistic church will bring forth new babies in Christ.

- Disciples sat down in the Book of Acts to receive the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:2). We cannot receive the Holy Ghost through our personal toil but as a result of resting in the promises of God.
- Allow those who do not receive the Holy Ghost to know they can receive it anywhere and that the Bible encourages them to “Tarry...until Pentecost” (1 Corinthians 16:8). “...But wait for the promise of the Father...” (Acts 1:4).
- In the New Testament people received the Holy Ghost quickly.

Reasons why some do not receive the Holy Ghost:

1. Lack of complete repentance.
2. Doubt.
3. Unbelief.
4. Self pity.
5. Feelings of guilt (refusing to forgive yourself).
6. Preconceived ideas of what is going to happen when receiving the Holy Ghost.
7. Fear.
8. Sin.
9. Indoctrination/traditionalism received in other churches.
10. Feeling the Holy Ghost is not for them.

Study Questions

1. What are some of the reasons why people do not receive the Spirit? _____

2. What are some tips one can use in conducting Holy Ghost ministration? _____
