



NEW LIFE

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MINISTRY

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Jesus' Ministry

By Vince Dorazio

Have you ever thought about what Jesus' ministry was all about? Or what was Jesus' main purpose of coming to us? Some would say that He came to forgive us of our sins by dying on the cross, and to give us eternal life. Some might say that He came to tell us that God loves us and to teach us to love one another. Others will say that He came to establish His Church and follow His teachings. Yet, others say that He came to give us the Holy Spirit and a New Life.

All of the above are correct in saying about Jesus' mission. But what was His main mission? And why did Jesus come to us? Ever since the first moment that Jesus was conceived in Mother Mary, the Holy Spirit was present. **"And the angel (Gabriel) said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."** (Luke 1:35) I believe that Jesus' main mission is to bring us the Holy Spirit!

The existence of the Holy Spirit is **NOT** an optional extra. The Holy Spirit is a vital part of our Christian believe and the life of the Church. Without the Holy Spirit there would be no forgiveness of our sins; no Church; no life eternal. We read in the Gospels that John The Baptist tells us, **"I baptize you with water, but one mightier than I will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire!"** (Matt. 3:11; Mk. 1:8; Lk. 3:16; Jn. 1:33) Jesus tells His Apostles that He will

send us the Holy Spirit to be with us always, **"And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate (the Holy Spirit) to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you."** (John 14:16-17) And on the day that Jesus ascends into Heaven, He reminds the Apostles of His promise, **"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."** (Acts 1:8) This is the mission of Jesus and the mission of the Christian Church.

DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Pentecost)

When the Holy Spirit came as Jesus promised, St. Luke records that **ALL** were filled with the Holy Spirit, even those women who were gathered together with the Apostles in the upper room. There were 120 in all. (See Acts 1:14-15)



No one was excluded. When the Apostles went into the streets of Jerusalem with the boldness of the Holy Spirit, it was St. Peter who spoke up telling all who would listen

that Jesus is the Messiah and has risen. He told them that they too could receive what he and the others had; the Holy Spirit. When the people asked what they should do, Peter said to them, **"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call."** (Acts 2:38-39) Some 3,000 people responded to St. Peter's message and they also received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit that day!

It was more than just "holy boldness" on that first day, it was the beginning of **The New Way**; it was the beginning of the Church; it was the beginning of the Holy Spirit in our lives. As more and more people began spreading the Good News of the promise of God and of Jesus' mission, more and more people came to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. Even today, as a new person is brought into the Church, and/or confirmed in the faith, they receive the anointing of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Jesus said, **"I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these."** (John 14:12) How can we do what Jesus did? How is this possible? After all, Jesus is God and we are only human. So how can we do greater things that Jesus did? Alone we can do nothing, but with Jesus, all things are possible. And Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit to continue with his mission; to bring the Holy Spirit to all people. For us to do the works that Jesus speaks of we must have the spiritual gifts that only come from the Holy Spirit. In order for us to continue to carry on with Jesus' mission, we must first be renewed in the baptism of the Holy Spirit. And then we must be open to receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit. And finally be ready and willing to use the Holy Spirit gifts. We read of these gifts in St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians. (1 Cor. 12)

When I was in the U.S. Air Force, I was trained as a medical corpsman, and was stationed in Madrid, Spain. I was assigned to the Emergency Room in the hospital. During our trainings as a medic we were taught that in an emergency, we would have only a few minutes to remove "victims" from a plane crash before the possibility of it blowing up. The crash crew chief was in charge of the situation and he would know when it was time to clear the area. When the signal was given we had only 1 minute to leave the scene and return to the triage area and help those victims we had "saved". If we decided to stay and help another person trapped in the wreckage, then we ourselves could end up as a victim or be considered dead, and unable to help any of the people we had previously rescued.

Jesus is the chief and He is in charge. And it is He who gives us the Holy Spirit. And the gifts we receive from Him are to be used to help other people receive what God has given to us. The Charismatic Renewal is a renewal of the charisms (gifts) that God has released on all people who accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. St. Paul speaks of these gifts in 1st Corinthians 12. They are; Wisdom, Knowledge, Discernment of Spirits, Healing, Miracles, Faith, Prophecy, Tongues, and Interpretation of Tongues. As Christians and followers of Jesus, we should all want and ask the Holy Spirit for all of these gifts.

As born again followers of Jesus, we are like the first responders in an emergency. We help people in their troubled lives and bring them to a safe place in Jesus. We then further help them to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. But we cannot do this unless we ourselves are renewed in the Holy Spirit. Unless we have received the gifts of the Holy Spirit and are willing to use them, we ourselves are like victims and/or are considered dead in the spirit. God's gifts of His Spirit are not for just a few, but for all who ask. Jesus told us, **"If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"** (Luke 11:13)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have scheduled **TWO (2) New Life Holy Spirit Conferences** coming in 2010. One is in the Spring (April) and the other is in the Fall (October).

SPRING CONFERENCE - - - April 23 & 24, 2010 (Friday & Saturday)

We are fortunate to have as our conference speaker Fr. John Randall. Fr. Randall is from the Diocese of Providence, RI and has spoken at many Charismatic Conferences and Renewal Days. He has renewed two dying parishes to Charismatic Parishes in the Providence Diocese. He has been in the Charismatic Renewal for 40 years and has been a member of the National Charismatic Service Committee. Fr. Randall has written several books on the Holy Spirit; most recently titled "*No Spirit, No Church*". Be sure to mark your calendars for this special weekend. Registration forms will be forthcoming soon. As always, there is **NO CHARGE** to register for the day or the lunch and dinner. Free will offerings will be taken.



FALL CONFERENCE - - - October 1 & 2, 2010 (Friday & Saturday)



Fr Bill Halbing will be our speaker for our fall conference weekend in October. Because so many who attended the New Life Day of Renewal this past year have requested that he return for a weekend, Fr. Bill Halbing has agreed to come back again. More information will be available in future newsletters.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you are in need of prayer support, we would like to include you in our daily prayers. Mail in your prayer request and we will add your request to our prayer list. **Please pray for all those in need of your prayers.**

SEND NEW LIFE TO OTHERS

You can help share the New Life of the Holy Spirit with other people you know. Just cut out this form and return it to us and we will add their name to our mailing list.

If you have moved or planning to move use this form as your change of address.

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NEWSLETTER IS TO PROCLAIM THAT
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD**

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Fr. Bill Halbing's 3 talks are available on CD's.



Vince Dorazio's book
***Touched By The Fire* is available.**

To receive a FREE set of Fr. Halbing's CD's and Vince's book please send a donation of \$25 or more.

Make checks payable to:
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*Enjoy the Holiday Season &
Celebrate the Birth of Jesus!*

**WEEKLY PRAYER
MEETINGS
THURSDAYS 7:30 PM**

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