

Times Two pt1 – How to Increase in the Power of the Holy Spirit

Dr. John Carmichael

[2Ki 2:1-14 NASB95] 1 And it came about when the LORD was about to take up Elijah by a whirlwind to heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. 2 Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here please, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. 3 Then the sons of the prophets who [were at] Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" And he said, "Yes, I know; be still." 4 Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. 5 The sons of the prophets who [were] at Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be still." 6 Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." And he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. 7 Now fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood opposite [them] at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan. 8 Elijah took his mantle and folded it together and struck the waters, and they were divided here and there, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground. 9 When they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." 10 He said, "You have asked a hard thing. [Nevertheless,] if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be [so.]" 11 As they were going along and talking, behold, [there appeared] a chariot of fire and horses of fire which separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven. 12 Elisha saw [it] and cried out, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw Elijah no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. 13 He also took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and returned and stood by the bank of the Jordan. 14 He took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and struck the waters and said, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the waters, they were divided here and there; and Elisha crossed over.

- This is very similar to Jesus' statement about Him leaving and the church receiving the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - [Jhn 14:12 NASB95] 12 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater [works] than these he will do; because I go to the Father.
 - [Jhn 16:7 NASB95] 7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

How do we increase the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

Here are four truths about walking in the power of the Holy Spirit.

I. Be fully committed.

- a. V. 2, 4, 6, 12 (called him his father.)
- b. [Luk 9:60-62 NASB95] 60 But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God." 61 Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home." 62 But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."
- c. Become fully committed to Jesus Christ as Lord of your life.

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II. Be willing to serve.

- a. V. 3, 5
- b. [2Ki 3:11 NASB95] 11 But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not a prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire of the LORD by him?" And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, "Elisha the son of Shaphat is here, who used to pour water on the hands of Elijah."
- c. We serve God by serving in His church for the expansion of the Gospel of Jesus.

III. Be hungry.

- a. V. 9-10
- b. This gigantic request is made by someone who is hungry.
- c. Randy Clark, "Most of the time, God anoints hungry people."
- d. [1Co 12:31 NASB95] 31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.
- e. [1Co 14:1, 39 NASB95] 1 Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual [gifts,] but especially that you may prophesy. ... 39 Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues.
- f. Hunger for God and the things of God makes you a candidate for the anointing.

IV. Be active.

- a. **V. 13-14**
 - b. [1Pe 4:10-11 NASB95] 10 As each one has received a [special] gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 Whoever speaks, [is to do so] as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves [is to do so] as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
 - c. Christianity is not just about you feeling better. It is a mission to help heal the world.
 - d. If you have nothing to do with the problems of others, you will have nothing to do the power to bring healing to others.
 - e. What are you going to do to help other people?
- **God wants to release the power of the Holy Spirit to hungry people who are fully committed to and actively serving Him.**