



Rachel and Cory Gregs of Biloxi, Mississippi stand in front of what used to be their apartment at the Quiet Water Apartments on Beach Boulevard in Biloxi, Mississippi August 30, 2005. Hurricane Katrina completely obliterated over 100 units of the Quiet Water apartments and St. Charles Condominiums with a reported 30 fatalities. Helicopters plucked frantic survivors from rooftops of inundated homes on Tuesday and hundreds were feared dead along the U.S. Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina sent a wall of water into Mississippi and flooded New Orleans. REUTERS/Mark Wallheiser



A vehicle is crushed by a collapsed home in a community stricken by the passing of Hurricane Katrina in Pass Christian, Mississippi August 31, 2005. When Hurricane Katrina roared ashore on the U.S. Gulf Coast on Monday, it sent a 30-foot (9-metre) storm surge into Biloxi. Many people were probably trapped in their homes by the ferocious wall of water. REUTERS/Joe Skipper



The Interstate-90 bridge over St. Louis Bay in Pass Christian, Mississippi is destroyed from Hurricane Katrina. The Pentagon is reportedly sending five ships, eight maritime rescue teams, helicopters, hovercraft and relief supplies to the southern region devastated by Hurricane Katrina.(AFP/File/Paul Richards)



A woman cries after returning to her house and business, destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, in Biloxi, Mississippi. Hundreds of rescuers flocked to the southern US states devastated by Hurricane Katrina, as aid organizations urged Americans to open up their wallets to help victims of the deadly storm.(AFP/Robert Sullivan)



A van sits on top a fence in the Point Cadet neighborhood, after being hit by Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi, Mississippi. Fresh floods, fires and looting rode in the destructive wake of Hurricane Katrina, deepening a humanitarian crisis that left hundreds feared dead and sections of New Orleans submerged to the rooftops.(AFP/Stan Honda)



A residential area stands destroyed in Gulfport, Mississippi following high winds and waves of Hurricane Katrina.(AFP/Paul J. Richards)



A neighborhood is partially submerged after hurricane Katrina struck Biloxi, Mississippi, August 30, 2005. Helicopters plucked frantic survivors from rooftops of inundated homes on Tuesday and officials said hundreds of people may have died in the hurricane's attack on the U.S. Gulf Coast, which sent a wall of water into Mississippi and flooded New Orleans. REUTERS/Marc Serota



Thousands of people displaced by Hurricane Katrina wait for buses to depart the Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana September 2, 2005. Two key U.S. senators said on Friday they will open a bipartisan investigation into what they described as an 'immense failure' of the government response to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Sen. Susan Collins, a Maine Republican who heads the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, and Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, the panel's top Democrat, said they plan to begin an oversight investigation next week when the full Senate returns from a summer recess. (Robert Galbraith/Reuters)

*Where is God when
tragedy hits?*

Where is God when tragedy hits?

1. Bypass the whole thing

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2. Redefine God

Where is God when tragedy hits?

1. Bypass the whole thing

2. Redefine God

3. Allow God to be God - the answer given to Job



“We can rest contentedly in our sins and in our stupidities, and everyone who has watched gluttons shoveling down the most exquisite foods as if they did not know what they were eating, will admit that we can ignore even pleasure. But pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but shouts in our pains. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

~ C.S. Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*.





OUR HEARTS ON
FIRE!

six qualities from Acts to ignite your life

What is God's way of helping us through the fire of life? What is our resource for strength?

What is God's way of helping us through the fire of life? What is our resource for strength?

Acts 1:4-8

⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ⁶So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

What is God's way of helping us through the fire of life? What is our resource for strength?

Acts 4:7-10

⁷They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

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Acts 4:23-31

²³On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. ²⁴When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ²⁶The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.'

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Acts 4:23-31

²⁷Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” ³¹After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

What is God's way of helping us through the fire of life? What is our resource for strength?

Acts 6:2-7

²So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." ⁵This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

*What does it mean to be
“filled with the Holy Spirit?”*

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“filled with the Holy Spirit?”*

How can I be filled?

What does it mean to be “filled with the Holy Spirit?” How can I be filled?

Ephesians 5:15-21

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,

¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

The Context of verse 18

Ephesians 5:15-21

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Signs of a person who is filled with the Spirit

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Signs of a person who is filled with the Spirit

1. Godward in Speech

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Signs of a person who is filled with the Spirit

2. Worshipful

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Signs of a person who is filled with the Spirit

3. Give thanks for EVERYTHING

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¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Signs of a person who is filled with the Spirit

4. Revere Jesus so others get respect

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What does it mean to be “filled with the Holy Spirit?” How can I be filled?

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“The way to approach this, it seems to me, is to remind ourselves that the Holy Spirit is a Person. The Holy Spirit is not just an influence. So many seem to talk about being filled with the Spirit as if the Holy Spirit were some kind of liquid. They talk about having an ‘empty vessel’, an empty jug, and having the Spirit poured in. That is entirely wrong because it forgets that the Holy Spirit is a Person. He is not a substance, not a liquid, and not a power like electricity. We all tend to fall into this error. We even tend to refer to the Holy Spirit as ‘it’, forgetting that the Holy Spirit is the third Person in the blessed Holy Trinity.”

*~ Martyn Lloyd-Jones in
“Life In The Spirit in Marriage, Home and
Work”, pg 47*

What does it mean to be “filled with the Holy Spirit?” How can I be filled?

1. Go to the Bar!

What does it mean to be “filled with the Holy Spirit?” How can I be filled?

1. Go to the Bar!

2. Drink your fill

What does it mean to be “filled with the Holy Spirit?” How can I be filled?

1. Go to the Bar!

2. Drink your fill

3. Get Drunk!