

BEING FILLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

All week long, the Lord has been emphasizing the word “pour.”

The Lord wants to pour out Himself upon the church, not just His fruits and gifts.

He is the gift He wants to pour out.

Acts 2 gives the interpretation of Joel 2.

When God sends his Holy Spirit, it's not just a little, it's not just a taste, it's not just a touch, it's not just a sprinkling. It is a **POURING OUT!** That we might be immersed, that our cups might overflow!

There is a flow of encouragement that is coming from the Throne of God.

Are we ready to be filled?

Like a cup of soda with lots of ice, if we put a bunch of stuff from the world into our hearts, God can't fill our hearts up with His Spirit if we have all that other stuff in there. Just like you can't put as much soda in a cup if it has a bunch of ice in it. Not only do those worldly things fill us up, they also make our hearts cold toward God.

In Acts 2, the people needed to repent. They needed to change their minds about who Jesus is. But they also needed to change their minds about sin. True repentance is when we actually hate sin, not just resist it. To hate sin because it fills you up and keeps you from being filled with the Holy Spirit. We need to repent even from the desire to sin, not just the act.

We need to be stabilized so that we keep our focus where it needs to be, to keep us from turning back. Here are some things they did to stabilize themselves in Acts 2:41-42.

- 1) Were baptized
- 2) Were continually devoted to the Apostles teaching
- 3) Were continually devoted to fellowship
- 4) Were continually devoted to the breaking of bread
- 5) Were continually devoted to prayer

But we cannot move on to these steps without doing the first step, which is repentance.

While preparing this message, Pastor Andy felt like the Lord said. “I'm tired of My church being empty.” Not the building. The people. Being empty of Me. But the Lord was not saying it out of frustration or condemnation, but rather out of compassion. He was saying These are My people and I love them. But they are empty. Do you know how that makes me feel as their Father? I want to fill them, because I Love them. I want to fill them because without me they are empty. I want to pour Myself out on them. I have poured out My blood for their forgiveness and I want to pour out My Spirit for their filling. So that they will not be empty. That they will receive not only My gifts, but fruitfulness and be ready for My coming.

SCRIPTURE LIST

Joel 2:28-29

Acts 2:14-42

Leviticus 4:7

James 1:8

James 4:7-10