

GOSPEL TRUTH

Andrew Wommack Ministries • July 2017 Newsletter



THE
Present-Day Ministry
of the Holy Spirit

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Barry Bennett

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THE Present-Day Ministry of the Holy Spirit



Dear Friends,

I want to share something that I'm really excited about, and that's the present-day ministry of the Holy Spirit. This is the root of everything good that God has done in my life.

Sadly, the teaching of the Holy Spirit's ministry has largely been neglected in the body of Christ. In fact, many believe that miracles and the Holy Spirit's gifts aren't for us today. But rejecting this truth will really limit what God can do in your life. If I had not had an experience with the Lord and the baptism of the Holy Spirit in 1968, you would never have heard from me. So, I challenge you to hear what I'm teaching and examine it.

The first thing I want to point out is that the Holy Spirit is a *person*. He's not a force or a concept. He's a person. As part of the Godhead, He's so important that Jesus Himself did not enter public ministry until He had received the Holy Spirit.

The Bible says that Jesus went to John to be baptized:

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: [17] And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Matthew 3:16-17

Jesus would not operate independently of the Holy Spirit. If Jesus, the sinless Son of God, needed to be anointed by the Holy Spirit before He could begin His ministry, why do we think we could somehow function without this same empowerment?

Jesus thought so highly of the Holy Spirit's ministry that He taught extensively about Him on the night before His own death (John 14-16). Jesus told His disciples that He was going to His Father and that they wouldn't see Him anymore. But He told them it's "*expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you*" (John 16:7).

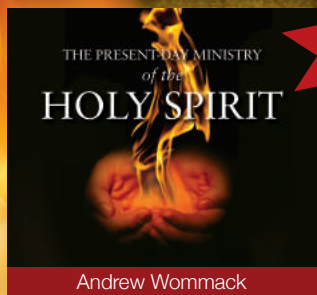
Now, just stop and think about this. Jesus had been with these disciples for three-and-a-half years. He performed countless miracles and taught about the Father like nobody ever had before, and then He was just going to leave. Yet He's telling them that it's to their advantage. That's a radical statement.

If I asked "Would you like to see Jesus in His physical body standing right here with you and ministering to you, or do you want the Holy Spirit?" I bet that 99.9 percent of Christians today would answer that they'd rather have Jesus in His physical body. One reason for this is that the Holy Spirit has been misrepresented. Many Christians believe that the Holy Spirit is the one who makes them feel condemned and guilt-ridden. Yet Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Comforter (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; and 16:7).

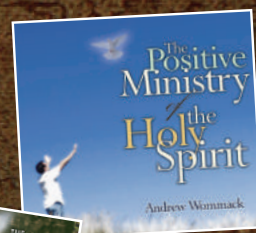
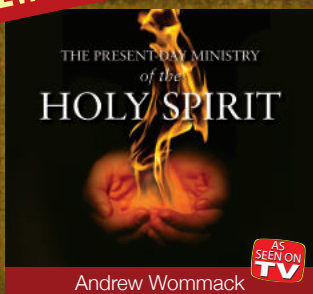
In addition to comforting believers, He also empowers us. Some people have taught that He empowers us to just be good. But by teaching this, they are relegating the Holy Spirit to a bar of soap—He cleans you up, and that's it. They think of the miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit as something that happened 2,000 years ago. They don't accept, receive, or pursue this ministry of the Holy Spirit today.

continued

The Present-Day Ministry of the Holy Spirit



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Remember, Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit before He did one miracle. Hebrews 13:8 says, "*Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever*" (brackets mine). Jesus is God. The Godhead is one. So, the Holy Spirit is the same today as He ever was. **I'm telling you that if Jesus needed the Holy Spirit back then, then we need Him today!**

Let's look at the account of the Holy Spirit coming to reside on the earth. Right before Jesus was caught up into heaven, He told His disciples to "*wait for the promise of the Father*" (Acts 1:4). He also said, "*Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you*" (Acts 1:8). They had the greatest message that could ever be told, yet He told them not to go anywhere until they received the Holy Spirit—until they received power.

If Jesus needed the Holy Spirit and His own disciples needed the Holy Spirit, then wouldn't it make sense that we need Him too? During the days of the early church, God confirmed the apostles' teaching with signs and wonders, the gifts of the Holy Spirit. His desire hasn't changed. The Lord doesn't want us witnessing out of our own strength either. **Even today, the Word of God should be preached in power and demonstration of the Holy Spirit and not with words only (1 Cor. 2:4).**

I have so much more to share about this, so I encourage you to get the complete package about the Holy Spirit, which includes the teaching *The Present-Day Ministry of the Holy Spirit*. This will help you understand the Holy Spirit's ministry. But you don't have to wait for this package in order to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit! Call our Helpline: 719-635-1111, and one of our prayer ministers can lead you into this awesome experience. They can also send you materials that will explain more about it.

Although the modern-day church doesn't emphasize the Holy Spirit, ignoring Him doesn't make Him go away; it just leaves believers powerless. I encourage you to get these materials today.

We love you,

Andrew and Jamie

MEET the Instructor:

Barry Bennett



When students first come to Charis Bible College, it's common for them to think that Andrew Wommack will be their favorite instructor. However, much to Andrew's delight, many students soon find that they like other instructors as much or more!

One of Charis's most popular instructors is dean of students Barry Bennett. Sitting across from Barry in his office is reminiscent of being sent to the principal's office, but Barry views his role very differently: "I want people to see what an ordinary guy [in Christ] can become." However, Barry does admit that being dean of students requires a formality at school that shapes the students' perceptions of him. For example, he tells a story about a first-year student who was going door-to-door to get roofing customers and unsuspectingly knocked on his door. When he answered the door in Crocs™ and jeans, holding his dog, she almost fell off his porch, saying, "You're Barry Bennett!" to which he replied, "Well, yes, I am."

As an instructor, Barry's popularity in the classroom stems from the fresh revelation that students receive due to the depth of his biblical knowledge. When asked what he feels most passionate about teaching, Barry says, "I teach what I live and what works. I've seen that when the Word is believed and applied, it will transform lives, and that's what I like to share."

When he arrived at Charis, Barry was not new to biblical education. After graduating from Christ for the Nations Institute in Dallas, Texas, he and his wife, Betty Kay, spent time teaching pastors and missionaries in Mexico, in Guatemala, and finally in Chile. They were in Chile for almost twelve years before returning to Carrollton, Texas,

in 2001. There, he directed and taught at Instituto Avance, a Bible institute for Spanish speakers. In 2006, the Bennett family received their next calling, to Colorado Springs and Andrew Wommack Ministries.

While walking past the Charis first-year classroom one day, Barry heard the Holy Spirit say that he would someday teach at the school. He began working in the AWM Phone Center in 2007 as a prayer minister and soon moved over to email correspondence, answering doctrinal questions from individuals worldwide in response to Andrew's television and radio broadcasts. Barry realized that people everywhere had the same basic questions about God, and that resulted in his book *Did God Do This to Me?* as well as the development of his second-year course *Answers to Important Questions*.

Although Barry has been the dean of students since 2011, teaching has remained his greatest motivational gift. Students in all three years benefit from his wisdom and insight, and many would attest that it's hard to pick which of his courses is their favorite!

In addition to teaching, Barry is an avid writer. He describes writing as a personal challenge, saying, "Writing is just another expression of what God is showing me, and it keeps me in the Word." Barry currently has two books in print.

Whether a student encounters Barry Bennett as dean, Charis instructor, or writer, it's clear that Barry's heartfelt desire is to see the body of Christ walking in the truth of God's Word, living by the promises of God, and being modern-day examples of Christ.





 **CHARIS BIBLE COLLEGE**

ENROLL Now!

Discover what you were born to do.

Our **Charis Daytime** program offers immersion in the Word while helping you make connections that can last a lifetime. Personal interaction with instructors and fellow students creates an environment for exponential growth. By devoting yourself to full-time study, you are investing in purpose and power for a lifetime.

If you need to maintain your family and work schedules but want to dedicate time to pursuing God's purpose for your life, our flexible **Charis Hybrid** program is the perfect option. Offered evenings or Saturdays, this exciting new program features a unique blend of independent study and face-to-face time with instructors and with other students who want to go deeper.

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Note: The above programs are not available at all campuses. To find out more, visit our website: www.charisbiblecollege.org, or call 719-635-6029.

School starts September 5, so enroll now and invest in your destiny!



LIVING Devotional Speaking Mysteries

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory.

1 Corinthians 2:7

Paul clearly stated that the wisdom of God he was speaking was in a mystery. In this same book, this same author said in 1 Corinthians 14:2 that when we speak in tongues, we are speaking mysteries. So, it is logical to think that the way Paul received this revelation involved speaking in tongues and receiving the interpretation.

It is our new, born-again spirits that have been renewed in knowledge (Col. 3:10), know all things (1 John 2:20), and have the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16). And when we pray in tongues, it is our spirits that are praying (1 Cor. 14:14). All we have to do is pray that we interpret what we are praying or have our understanding become fruitful (1 Cor. 14:13).

I believe this was how Paul received this supernatural revelation of God's grace that caused even Peter to marvel at his revelation (2 Pet. 3:15-16). Paul didn't learn this from people (Gal. 1:12). He spent three years in the deserts of Arabia. What was he doing? I'm sure he was pouring over the Scriptures he was already very familiar with and then praying in tongues and asking God for revelation.

Likewise, we have this infinite mind of Christ in our born-again spirits. All we have to do is draw it out. Speaking in tongues and receiving revelation is one way of doing that.



The power to live the Christian life is in the power of the Holy Spirit. Learn more about the Counselor whom God gave us by getting this month's offer and by getting my *Living Commentary* software program: www.awmi.net/store/living-commentary.



TESTIMONIES

What People Are Saying!



“My job was giving me a hard time, and my situation was deteriorating rapidly. I went to one of your seminars, and while I was there, I contracted a cold. All that to say, I was not feeling very victorious. But at the conference, Andrew asked if anyone needed prayer for healing. I went up for prayer, when the Holy Spirit fell on me. I was healed of the cold, and the congestion in my chest immediately cleared up—all while waiting in line. Then the Lord showed me what I had been dealing with at work; it was a spirit of oppression at my job. Immediately the oppression lifted from me. When I got back home, I left that job. During the process of leaving, God provided a true financial miracle. Praise God!”

P.J. New York

“Andrew, I just wanted to thank God for you and your ministry. The teachings and resources that you offer are truly a blessing to me. I have begun to see the manifestation of prayers being answered, and my mindset has been changed by the Word of God and how you teach it with such simplicity. The Holy Spirit keeps confirming to me that I am walking in the way that God has purposed for me. He has been using you to confirm to me that I am on the right track. Thank you for liberating me from religion and bondage through the Word of God. May God continue to bless you.”

M.Y. The Bronx

“My daughter sneezed and blew out her eardrum. We agreed that the resurrection power of God lives on the inside of her and that she’s “already got it,” just like Andrew teaches. We stood on the Word and decreed that the doctor would be astonished by the healing of her eardrum. The next morning she could hear, but not clearly. The nurse practitioner looked in her ear and saw something white. She told my daughter to go immediately to the ear doctor for surgery because she did not know what it was. God brought it to my daughter’s attention that she had put tissue in her ear a few days earlier to keep out the air because it was causing pain. My daughter told the nurse practitioner about this. When the nurse practitioner pulled out the tissue, to her astonishment, she saw a brand-new eardrum. As a matter of fact, she said it looked better than the other one. Because of your ministry, I learned how to pray and stand on God’s Word. Thank you!”

P.H. Georgia

If you would like to share a testimony about how AWM has impacted your life, post at www.awmi.net/reading/guestbook.

*Submissions
edited for length
and clarity.*

Andrew's
(LIVE)
BIBLE STUDY

Every Tuesday at 6 p.m. (MT)
www.awmi.net/live-bible-study

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upcoming events & conferences

JULY

**World Changers Church International,
Grace Life Conference**

July 10-14 • College Park, GA

**Faith Fellowship Ministries World
Outreach Center's International Pastors &
Ministers Conference**

July 17-20 • Sayreville, NJ

AUGUST

Chicago Gospel Truth Seminar

August 3-5 • Lombard, IL

Life Changers International Church

August 6 • Hoffman Estates, IL

Life Changers International Church

August 6 • Chicago, IL

Healing Is Here Conference

August 15-18 • Woodland Park, CO

Healing Is Here Conference

August 24-26 • Walsall, UK

(Andrew will not be present at this event.)

SEPTEMBER

Healing Is Here Conference

September 1-2 • Dewsbury, UK

(Andrew will not be present at this event.)

Freedom Christian Center Camp Meeting

September 10-15 • Charlotte, NC

Cornerstone Church

September 16-17 • Johnson City, TN

Charis Alumni Day

September 30 • Woodland Park, CO

OCTOBER

Charis Christian Center

October 1 • Colorado Springs, CO

Ministers' Conference

October 2-6 • Woodland Park, CO

**Additional events and conferences will
be added throughout the year.**

For more information on Andrew's meetings, go to our website: www.awmi.net/events

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