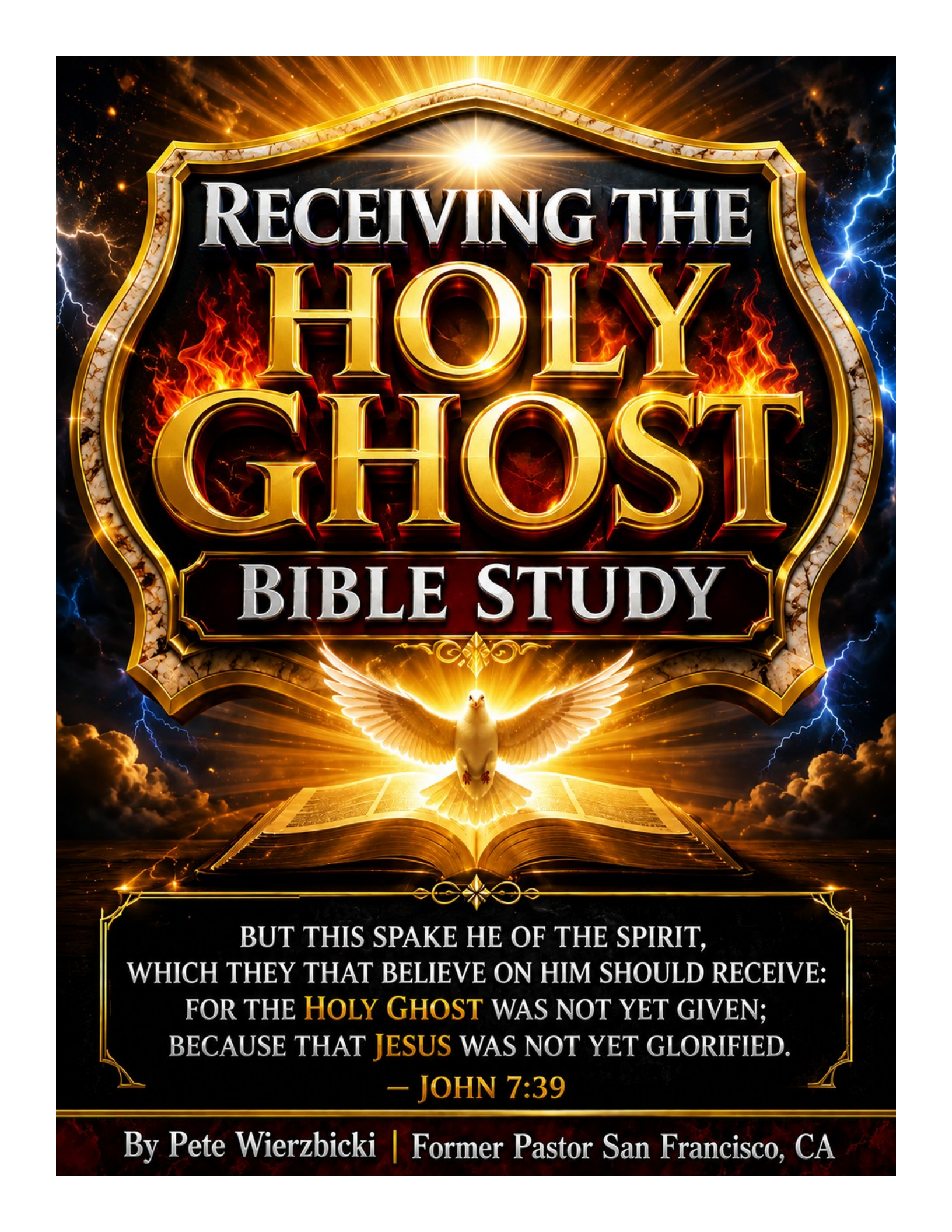




RECEIVING THE HOLY GHOST

BIBLE STUDY

BUT THIS SPAKE HE OF THE SPIRIT,
WHICH THEY THAT BELIEVE ON HIM SHOULD RECEIVE:
FOR THE **HOLY GHOST** WAS NOT YET GIVEN;
BECAUSE THAT **JESUS** WAS NOT YET GLORIFIED.

— **JOHN 7:39**

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— INTRODUCTION

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)
[John 7:38-39](#)

Who Is The Holy Ghost?

Let's answer that question and begin our study by talking about Jesus. Jesus is the one true God.

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. [Titus 2:13-14](#)

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.
[Revelation 1:8](#)

Jesus was the **Mighty God**, the Everlasting Father manifest in the flesh; come to earth in human form.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. [Isaiah 9:6](#)

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.
[1 Timothy 3:16](#)

He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. [John 1:10](#)

Jesus came to earth to give us the Gospel message; the hope of eternal life. He also came to shed his blood and die for our sins; to raise from the dead as an example to all that believe on Him.

But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: 2 Timothy 1:10

And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. John 6:40

Jesus was BOTH man and God. In Him was the fullness of God.

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 2:5

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:19

For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: Colossians 2:9-10

The Spirit that was in Jesus was God. There is only ONE Spirit.

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling. Ephesians 4:4

After Jesus died and rose again, He returned to heaven. Then He sent back His Spirit to live in the hearts of men. The Bible (and Jesus Himself) refers to the indwelling Spirit as the Holy Ghost. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. John 14:26

Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. John 14:17-18

And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. Romans 8:10

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. Romans 5:5

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love. Ephesians 3:17

What Is The Purpose Of The Holy Ghost?

Receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost has three main purposes. They are as follows:

1. We need the Holy Ghost to be saved. The Holy Ghost is what gives us the power to raise from the dead.

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. [John 3:5](#)

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. [Romans 8:9](#)

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. [Romans 8:11](#)

2. We need the Holy Ghost to be cleansed and to live a holy life. The Bible tells us that without holiness, no man can see God.

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: [Hebrews 12:14](#)

And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. [1 Corinthians 6:11](#)

But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. [Romans 6:22-23](#)

3. We need the Holy Ghost to be a witness to the world so that others can be saved.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. [Acts 1:8](#)

How Does The Holy Ghost Work?

He dwells in our hearts and influences our mind. He convicts us of sin and unrighteousness, and gives us the desire to be pure and to live holy; to be like Jesus.

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. [Romans 8:5-9a](#)

Do I Have To Have The Holy Ghost?

Yes, the Holy Ghost is not an option with God.

Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
[Romans 8:5-9b](#)

How Do I Receive The Holy Ghost?

You must repent of your sin. Decide that you want to be saved and that you want to obey the Bible. You can't do it on your own, but God will give you the Holy Ghost and power. It's His promise!

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. [Acts 2:38-39](#)

And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him. [Acts 5:32](#)

If you truly repent and decide to obey God, the Bible says you can ask for the Holy Ghost and God will give it to you. The altars at a Apostolic Church are a great place to cry out to God, ask His forgiveness for your sins, and tell Him your ready to live for Him and be saved.

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? [Luke 11:13](#)

Are there examples of people in the Bible receiving the Holy Ghost?

Yes! Many time in the Book of Acts we see people receiving the Holy Ghost and being water baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Here we see 120 people including the disciples of Jesus, His brothers and even Mary His mother receive the Holy Ghost.

And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. [Acts 1:13-14](#)

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. [Acts 2:1-4](#)

How Do I Know That I Have The Holy Ghost?

As we saw in the previous passage, those receiving the Holy Ghost began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave the utterance. Jesus said this would be the sign of true believers.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues. [Mark 16:17](#)

Here we see others receiving the Holy Ghost biblically. This is how we receive it in our church and when you get the Holy Ghost, you too will speak in other tongues! Let's see it in the Bible:

While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? Acts 10:44-47

And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. Acts 19:1-6

Should I get the Holy Ghost the first time I pray for it? What if I don't get the Holy Ghost right away?

Not everybody gets the Holy Ghost the first time they come to church. Sometimes God wants us to persevere. If you have repented, just keep coming to church and asking God. Jesus told His disciples to be patient and wait until they received the Holy Ghost.

And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. Luke 24:46-49

After I Get The Holy Ghost, What Then?

When you receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost, you will have received the greatest gift and miracle that God gives to man! However, the Bible says you must be born of the water and the Spirit. We will baptize you in water in the wonderful name of Jesus for the

remission of all your sins. We have another Bible study entitled, "Baptism In Jesus' Name" that will explain the importance of water baptism and the name of Jesus Christ.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. [Mark 16:16](#)

And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. [Acts 10:48](#)

You will also want to begin being faithful to church and to God, and you will need a pastor. Tell the man of God who baptized you that you want him to be your pastor. He will watch out for your soul and preach the Word of God to you.

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. [Hebrews 10:22-25](#)

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you. [Hebrews 13:17](#)

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. [1 Corinthians 1:18](#)

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. [1 Corinthians 1:21](#)

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. [Ephesians 4:11-13](#)

You will also want to study your Bible to learn about the One True God of the Bible, Jesus Christ. We have an excellent Bible study entitled, “The One God Bible Study” — be sure to ask about it.

And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord. [Mark 12:29](#)

You will also learn about the Christian life and developing Christian character. You will experience the joy of living for God and sharing in the fellowship of other like-minded believers. God has so much ahead for you.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. [1 John 1:7](#)

Receiving the Holy Ghost is a wonderful yet serious matter. After you receive the Holy Ghost, you become the temple of God because God now dwells inside of you. You will want to keep yourself from sin, worldly activities and even from people who do not love the Lord. Separation from the world is important for Spirit-filled believers.

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. [1 Corinthians 3:16-17](#)

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. [2 Corinthians 6:14-18](#)

We invite you to come and worship with us as we worship God in Spirit and in Truth. We are an Apostolic Church that still believes in being saved just like in the Bible: repentance, baptism in Jesus' Name, and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost with the sign of speaking in other tongues!

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. [John 4:24](#)