

BAPTISM IN THE SPIRIT & FIRE

SEGMENT 3

SYNOPSIS

"He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire" - Mt 3:11

Jesus came to baptize us in the Holy Spirit, and the power and grace that comes from the baptism in the Holy Spirit changes lives. For the millions of Catholics worldwide who have had this experience it is a transforming grace that brings freedom, peace, and the very presence of God. Unfortunately for many Catholics the term "baptism in the Holy Spirit" is not a term with which they are familiar. In this segment we will discuss what the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is all about.

DISCUSSION

1. What has been your experience of baptism in the Holy Spirit? Is this something new to you?
2. Discuss occasions where you have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in your life. When have you felt his peace? His fire?
3. What kind of words would you use to describe your relationship with the Holy Spirit? Fire? Power?

BAPTIZE
YOU WITH
FIRE
MT. 3:11

REFLECTION

Come Holy Spirit.

Find a time and place where you can quiet yourself. Spend some time letting go of things that may be troubling you or causing anxiety. One by one give them to the Lord. Take your time and be patient; there is no hurry.

If it's helpful write your concerns and anxieties down and then give them to the Lord. When you feel it is time, ask God to send his Holy Spirit upon you to baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire. Be open to experiencing God's love, peace, closeness, and possibly forgiveness. Let the Spirit of God overshadow you.



Photo by L'Observateur: Romano

*"LET US **REDISCOVER**,
DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,
THE BEAUTY OF BEING
BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT"*

-POPE BENEDICT XVI-

KEY TEXTS

MATTHEW 3:11 *"I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire."*

MARK 1:8 *"... he will baptize you with the holy Spirit."*

LUKE 3:16 *"I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals."*

JOHN 1:33 *"... he is the one who will baptize with the holy Spirit."*

ACTS 1:5 *"...for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the holy Spirit."*