

**Spiritual Bootcamp & More Lesson 4**  
**WHAT YOU HAVE**  
*tallest finger= AUTHORITY & POWER!*

\*After completing the homework, watch Lesson 4 video(s) on *spiritualbootcampandmore.com*.

Our Bootcamp training continues, and hopefully by now you can feel those faith muscles being stretched. He is arming you even more, one finger at a time. Being a soldier in God's Army requires you to "know that you know that you know" **who you are (thumb)**—your true identity and in which camp or kingdom you reside (**pointer finger— where you are**). You have a commanding officer giving the perfect orders, and it is your job to listen and follow through. This follow through or obedience is impossible without AUTHORITY & POWER. The authority we have been given and the power He instructs us to receive are not automatic. That is why we will focus this lesson on your third or tallest finger which represents **WHAT YOU HAVE = AUTHORITY & POWER!**

1. Our two theme verses for authority and power are found in Luke 10:19 and Acts 1:8. Read them out loud and then write them below.

Luke 10:19 "I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you."

Acts 1:8 "But 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."

2. Think about the word "authority." Let's take a look at the definition from the Greek word for authority which is *exousia* (Strong's Concordance 1849): conferred power to act, delegated empowerment, weight, authorization, operating in a delegated jurisdiction, the authority that God gives to His saints, authority then to act to the extent they are guided by faith (His revealed Word), the power of one whose will and commands must be obeyed by others.

Let's understand that if we are to walk by faith in our God-given authority, we will also walk under authority as it relates to the spiritual, home, workplace, school, and civil arenas.

Write Matthew 10:1 "He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness."

Write Matthew 28:18-20 "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

Write Romans 13:1-2 "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves."

3. **Questions to ponder and discuss in Bootcamp** (*Your transparency here will most likely help someone sitting around you.*):

a) Do you often “stop short” in exercising the authority He has given to you and if so, why do you think this happens?

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b) Have you come to the place in faith that you now know that you really do have “all authority” over the enemy? \_\_\_\_\_ If you answered yes, can you share a testimony of God’s faithfulness to you in this journey learning to exercise authority.

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4. According to our theme verses for finger #3 you have been given AUTHORITY (Luke 10:19), but you also must receive POWER (Acts 1:8).

a) Rewrite and meditate on Acts 1:8 “But 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.”

b) Let’s begin to take a chronological look at a few events that happened to the disciples prior to them “receiving power when the Holy Spirit came on them” as recorded in the above verse. Read then write John 20:19-22. This is one of the accounts of Jesus appearing to the disciples post-resurrection.

“On the evening of the first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.’ And with that he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

When Jesus breathed on them in the above verse (John 20:22), what does the Bible tell us that they received? the Holy Spirit

c) Now jump over to Acts 1:3-5; 8-9 and listen to what Jesus says to them this time: “After his suffering He showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On 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. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be **baptized with the Holy Spirit**. ...But 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.’ And after he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.”

Write Acts 2:1-4 “When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what appeared to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

d) The disciples had clearly **received the Holy Spirit** when Jesus breathed on them in John 20:22. *What then were they told to wait for just two chapters later in Acts 1:4?*

*They were told to wait for the gift promised by the Father—the baptism with the Holy Spirit.*

Wow. The Bible is clear and not confusing at all. It tells chronologically what happened to those first disciples. Jesus clearly “breathed on them” in John 20:22 and they “received the Holy Spirit” but there was **more to come**. After that, Jesus told them to go and wait for the gift promised by the Father, which was the baptism with the Holy Spirit. They needed **POWER**. After receiving His power, *they were forever changed*. Think about them after the crucifixion. They scattered like frightened sheep. After they received the baptism with the Holy Spirit they became bold and courageous. The early disciples needed **power for ministry**; they needed **power to live a supernatural life**. It is no different for followers of Christ today. We need **power!** This is exactly why the enemy fights so hard against the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Whereas it should be a very practical and normal part of our journey, the enemy has caused massive amounts of confusion, division, abuse, and gross imbalances in the body of Christ concerning this powerful gift. Satan is only doing his job as a liar and a thief. Let the alive Word continue to clear up any confusion you may have. Always search out the scriptures first. There will be more verses below concerning the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Remember that this lesson’s finger #3 is about “Authority & Power,” so this is not meant to be a teaching on the baptism with the Holy Spirit. There are many excellent internet teachings as well as excellent books on this most misunderstood topic. A few personal favorites will be listed at the end of Lesson 4 on the website. Set aside some time to listen—they are indeed power-packed and life-changing!

#### **Additional Scriptures on Baptism with the Holy Spirit:**

Acts 19:2 “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? They answered, ‘No, we have not even heard there is a Holy Spirit.’”

Acts 8:14-17 “When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.”

Matthew 3:11-13 “I (John the Baptist) baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. *He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.*”

Acts 11:15-17 “As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came upon them as he had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So if God gave them the same gift he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think I could oppose God.”

Luke 24:49 “I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been *clothed with power from on High.*”

**Let’s get practical:**

5. Bootcamps are all about repetition to get muscle memory. Spiritual Bootcamp does the same in the context of renewing your minds with the truths of God’s Word. You know the drill by now, so get those index cards out and then take a look back at all of the scriptures this lesson concerning AUTHORITY & POWER. *Allow the Holy Spirit to highlight the ones you need to put on cards.* Meditating on and reading these out loud daily will take you from “knowing to believing” that you have authority and power. Remember, you are being transformed as your mind is renewed with the alive Word.

6. Is there an area in your life that seems like the enemy is getting an upper hand? Would you like to share it?

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It may be too personal to share with your small group, but when we share with even one person it is amazing what can happen. Remember that the enemy will always work in extremes. He will want your struggle to stay hidden in darkness so the Light (authority of the Word) cannot shine on it, or he will have you talk about it over and over and over and have it become your identity without you ever using the authority and power available to defeat it. It does not have to be like this. Ask the Holy Spirit for His strategy. Dig into the Word and He will show you. Put a “verse on that curse.” You are getting armed one finger at a time and this is the lesson for you to show the enemy your AUTHORITY finger. “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

*Read out loud the cards you already have made concerning your current struggle(s) and add any others He has given you. Exercise your authority!*

### 7. Testimony time:

Let’s enjoy a testimony from a Bootcamp friend whose life was forever changed after she received the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Revelation 19:10).

“I had the privilege of growing up in a Christian home where I was taught about Jesus and taken to church my entire life. I made the decision to follow Jesus at the age of twelve. Although still rather young, I realized that I was a sinner, and that I was in need of a Savior (Romans 3:23). I repented of my sins (Luke 13:3); asked Jesus to forgive me (1 John 1:9); and accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior (Romans 10:9-10). I joined my mainline denominational church and was baptized by immersion. Unfortunately, upon entering college I was drawn to worldly things. While never denying Jesus, I just wasn’t living a life indicative of a true follower. After college, I married my hometown honey and we settled into living life. But something was missing— a close relationship with Jesus. So shortly after our marriage we made a commitment to be “all in” with following Jesus! Four years into our marriage, work took us to another state where I immediately began to look for a church whose main focus was preaching the Word of God! By this point in my life, I was very eager to learn all I could about being a Christ-follower. I met

some Christian friends who seemed to have something more than I was experiencing. I couldn't quite put my finger on it but they had a peace and joy that I didn't have and were actually seeing miracles take place! This was all new to me and so when they issued an invitation to attend a Praise and Worship gathering, I readily accepted! After some very animated praise and worship (remember I had only attended a very traditional church), the speaker began to teach on the Holy Spirit. I was very uncomfortable with the whole situation and was in the process of leaving when the speaker looked directly at me, even though there were hundreds of people in the room! I can still remember the words he spoke to me because it was as if the Lord was speaking to me directly! He told me that the Lord had a gift that He wanted to give me, if I would only open my heart to receive it! I had never had the Lord speak to me so clearly before, so needless to say I sat down and listened intently to what was said. I had many questions and spent the next two weeks studying my Bible to discover every scripture concerning the Holy Spirit. I also read a book 'The Holy Spirit and You' by Dennis and Rita Bennet. As a result of this intensive personal study, I sat at my kitchen table by myself and prayed a simple prayer. I ask the Lord to give me all that He wanted me to have. I immediately felt an urge to begin to sing and literally from my innermost being (John 7:38-39) flowed the most beautiful song I had ever heard— I was singing in the Spirit! I felt a peace and joy like I had NEVER experienced in my entire life! Hence began a spiritual journey with Jesus that I have been on for over forty years. I can't even imagine life without the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. When I'm faced with a difficult situation in which I have no idea how to pray, I know that the Holy Spirit will always pray the perfect prayer (Romans 8:26-27)! This gift is yours for the asking as the Lord shows no favoritism (Romans 2:11); He gives His gifts freely to those who ask! What are you waiting for???" Donna, Alabama

## 8. Prayer time:

Whether you have already received the Baptism with the Holy Spirit or not, there is always more of His Spirit for each one of us. We all need fresh in-fillings. For those who have never requested this gift as Donna so beautifully and simply described, **remember that when you ask, you will receive** (Matthew 7:11). It's the releasing of the prayer language that causes some to become frustrated or confused. Please do not fret about this. A few of the videos listed at the end of Lesson 4 on the website go into detail concerning common hindrances in fully releasing the gift that has been received. The manifestation of your personal prayer language is sometimes immediate or delayed for a period of time. Some people receive their prayer language when alone as Donna's testimony; some receive through the laying on of hands, which is scriptural. Simply surrender your voice to God. Remember that you must give voice to this new spirit language. "Out of your belly will flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). Use the space below to journal anything that surfaces as you get still and pray. Remember to thank Him for the authority and power you have in Him.

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## 9. Time to wrap it up:

Praying in tongues can be one of the most powerful, life-changing weapons in our tool belt from the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately for most believers, this is either non-existent or underutilized. The enemy has and continues to fight hard against tongues because he knows its power. Abuses, misuses, and bad experiences have misled many sincere Christians. Unfortunately for many, it has been a one time “experience” and has not become a normal part of their lives. It is a language gift to be embraced and grown. It should be an ongoing act of obedience to a loving Father who has given us everything we need for living a godly life (2 Peter 1:3). The word “it” has been repeatedly used but “it” is really HIM— the amazing Holy Spirit and His manifestations. Most of us have only scratched the surface of His power through His wonderful spiritual gifts. As Reinhard Bonnke stated, “The gifts of the spirit are not badges of honor but tools for the job.”

As we end this “power-packed” lesson please remember that tongues is simply one of the many manifestations of the baptism with the Holy Spirit. This baptism that has been discussed is for **power for living a supernatural life**. Bootcamp is designed to equip you further for living a supernatural life, hence, this topic could not be excluded. As my pastor once said, “The Baptism with the Holy Spirit doesn’t make me better than you; it makes me better than me!”

10. From memory recite your first 3 fingers of the Bootcamp Hand Drill:

Thumb is who I am.

Pointer finger is where I am.

Tallest finger is what I have = **AUTHORITY & POWER!**

“A Most High Five” for completing Lesson 4! See you at Bootcamp.

\*Remember to watch Lesson 4 video(s) on *spiritualbootcampandmore.com*.

\*\*Additional video teachings which have helped many not just understand more about the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, but have helped in the release of their prayer language, are listed at the end of Lesson 4 on the website. These video teachings are by pastors who are excellent communicators.

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