

I was a music student in London. I had met Christians that backed me into a corner and asked me if I was saved, or washed with the blood, or something. I had no idea what they were talking about and I just wanted to disappear. But towards the end of my time at the Royal College, I met some people who invited me to a coffee party and said they held Bible studies.

I listened to what was going on in those talks because the people actually looked happy. I hadn't met anybody that looked happy knowing God before then, so that made the difference, I think.

I decided either Jesus was mad or mistaken, or He really was who He said He was: the only way to the Father. So, I said to Him: "Well, I don't like that You say You're the only way, but I'll accept that." And my life really did change.

We need to get sure enough of God's love, so we can go out and share it with the lost. Having tasted of His love all I wanted to do was share it until I died.

I boarded a ship with nothing but a £10 note and a prayer that God would show me where to get off. When the boat pulled into Hong Kong in 1966, God ordered me to disembark.

By the time I got to the Walled City, all kinds of illegal buildings had gone up because they didn't need building permission. It became a wonderful place for people to hide. The police had no power to arrest people inside, so you could run away from the law. It just became a huge slum with no water, no electricity, and there were more rats than people – and there were about 100,000 people.

There were illegal dentists, drug dealers in opium dens and heroin dens where they sold girls, and blue film theatres, gambling dens; all illegal. And then there were the triads, the secret

societies, just like Mafia really, who live off crime and prostitution, and protection and frightening people. There were the little girls that had been sold, and the old women that were guarding them. And the fights and the opium addicts and the misery, but still I really loved the place.

The people there were watching to see how I acted, whether I really did love them. And if I really did love them, maybe God really did love them.



A couple from American challenged me to pray in tongues every day. Immediately, things began to change. Although I used the same words and same methods in sharing the Gospel, now I began to see powerful results. As I walked about the Walled City praying in the Spirit quietly under my breath, hearts were miraculously opened and lives changed! Drug addicts and gang members began to receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

When Jesus came into the young addicts' hearts, the battle was on because opium did not easily give up its grip on their lives. I prayed for an answer and as I struggled, I came to realize that the same power which had given me the ability to reach others with the Gospel could give these young men power to overcome the drug habit that enslaved them. I began to pray with those who received Jesus as Saviour that they would be baptized in the Holy Spirit. Gang leaders, pimps, prostitutes and others were instantly filled with the Spirit and spoke in other tongues.

Coming off opium is a painful experience. Few are able to accomplish it. However, I discovered that when those who were addicted would pray in the Spirit, the pains would subside and they were able to go through withdraw successfully. It was an amazing discovery!

Nowadays when people come to know Jesus, we pray with them for the gift of tongues immediately. It's not an optional extra. We say, by the way He'll give you a new language to help you talk to Him. So they do, and several times it has happened that within a few days they're prophesying. They would receive other gifts. Often God will heal somebody through somebody who met Jesus just five minutes ago. That's the best time to introduce gifts because they completely know at that point they're gifts of grace.

Praying in tongues was the great tool which God used to help these young men to know and experience God and to overcome their problems. Many of them lived in one-room shacks with 10 or 12 people, so they could not have a "quiet time" or normal devotional life. They had no background in the Bible to draw on, but the one thing that they did have was the manifestation of the presence of God when they prayed in other tongues. This is something that they could do all the time, even as they walked through the streets of the Walled City.

I've been asked: 'When other people travel to Hong Kong to work with you, is it true that you want them to be able to speak in tongues, and it's almost a prerequisite...?' No, it's not a prerequisite. The prerequisite is: "Would you like to help pray somebody off drugs?" OK, now can you manage four hours of praying non-stop? Tongues would be a really great help because it's quite hard to keep praying in your own language for that long.

The reason the Lord left us in this world is to do the job He told us to do. So we'd better get equipped to do it, instead of living this life as if this life is it. It's not, this is a very short life. And eternal life is forever. We're going to feel stupid for eternity if we wasted this one.

I was asked, "Is it a view of eternity that drives you?" No, I'm not driven. I'm led. Addicts are driven. Satan drives. The Holy Spirit leads. So, I'm not even purpose-driven, hopefully I'm Spirit-led.

RECEIVING THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Here are some Bible verses for encouraging you look to God for the work of the Holy Spirit in your own life:

"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" (Acts 1:8).

"Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call" (Acts 2:38-39).

"While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said, "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have" (Acts 10:44-47).

"While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?"

"John's baptism," they replied.

Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve men in all' (Acts 19:1-7).

"Lord Jesus, I believe in You. I believe You are the way to Heaven, for You died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day. I believe that You have all authority and all power, and You can baptism me with the Holy Spirit.

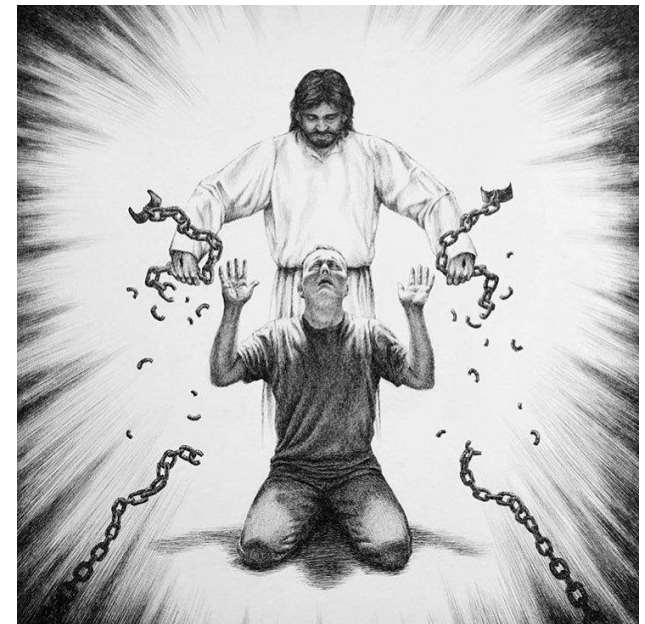
I ask that You give me the gift of speaking in tongues and please help me to do this every day. By faith I receive the Holy Spirit. Amen."

"But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life" (Jude 20-21).

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Breaking DRUG ADDICTION



**THE TESTIMONY
OF JACKIE PULLINGER**