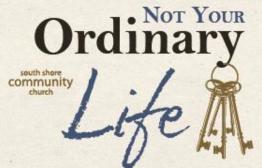
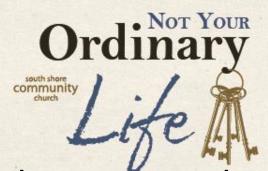


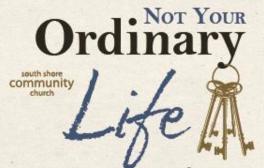
- Encounters & Spiritual authority bumps (timeline; saints – Finney; Moody, etc.)
- One of the ways we expand our spiritual authority is by having encounters with God, baptisms & re-baptisms of the Spirit.



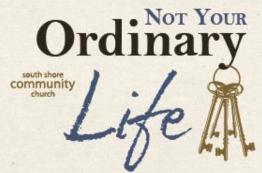
 Acts 1:4-8, Jesus said, "'Wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. . . You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



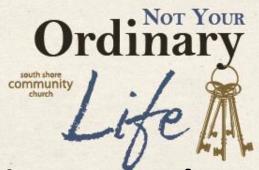
- There is a clear elevation in the disciples spiritual authority after the baptism of the Spirit. First, let's look at why, and then we will look at how we can be baptized or filled with the Spirit.
- First, we experience an elevation in authority when we are filled with the Spirit because we are experiencing God's love. (Rom 8:14-17)The security in God's love gives us a safety net to take risks that we may have shied away from previously. (Peter)



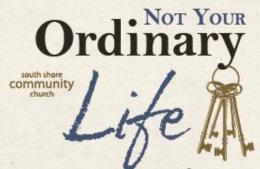
 First, we experience an elevation in authority when we are filled with the Spirit because we are experiencing God's love. Peter said, "Rulers & elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed" (Acts 4:8-10)



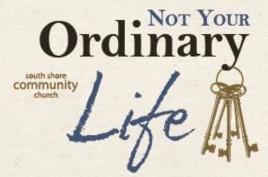
- First, we experience an elevation in authority when we are filled with the Spirit because we are experiencing God's love.
- After the baptism of the Spirit the disciples are so bold, they are dangerous to the hosts of hell. Their holy boldness was rooted in the secure & eternal love of the Father (Romans 5; 8) (afraid – then baptized & emboldened)



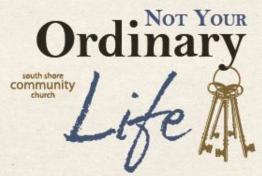
- First, we experience an elevation in authority when we are filled with the Spirit because we are experiencing God's love.
- Acts 4:29-31, Context: Apostles are threatened with persecution, "Now, Lord, consider their threats & enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.
 Stretch out your hands to perform miraculous signs & wonders through the name of your Holy servant Jesus."



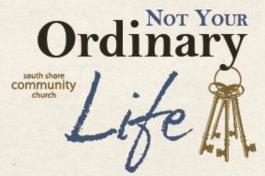
- First, we experience an elevation in authority when we are filled with the Spirit because we are experiencing God's love.
- Acts 4:29-31, "After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit & spoke the word of God boldly" (NOTICE: Filling led to boldness again; Filled for the second time – many encounters expand authority)



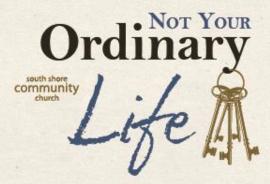
 Second, there is an elevation in authority when we are baptized with the Spirit because there is an increase in the presence & power of God in our lives. Jesus said, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you." (Acts 1:8) We pursue God's face with a theology of power, and when we enter into a greater experience of God's presence, the power increases as well.



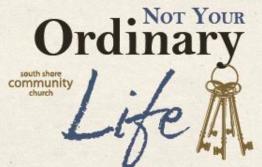
- Second, there is an elevation in authority when we are baptized with the Spirit because there is an increase in the presence & power of God in our lives. Acts 1:8
- Acts 2:37, it says that the people had heard the message Peter preached after being filled with the Spirit, "they were cut to the heart & said to Peter & the other apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?'" (deep bomb)



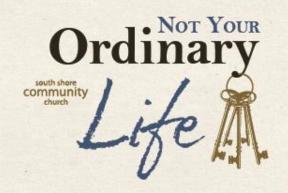
- Second, there is an elevation in authority when we are baptized with the Spirit because there is an increase in the presence & power of God in our lives. Acts 1:8
- Even enemies recognized the unusual authority. Acts 4:13, "When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus."



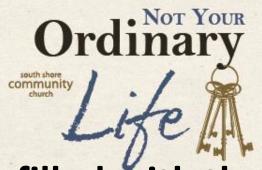
- Second, there is an elevation in authority
 when we are baptized with the Spirit because
 there is an increase in the presence & power
 of God in our lives. Acts 1:8
- After the second filling of the Spirit in Acts 4, Luke writes, "With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all." (Acts 4:33) (Finney – baptisms)



 Third, there is an elevation in authority when we are filled with the Holy Spirit b/c there is an increased sensitivity to God's voice & activity. Acts 2:17f, "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons & daughters will prophecy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men & women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, & they will prophesy." (co-worker spouse; child – attitude)



- How can we be filled with the Spirit?
- To be filled with the Spirit we need to wait on God in prayer. Jesus told his disciples "wait for the gift my Father promised."
- Waiting on God means we wait with faith. We have faith because it is a promised gift. We wait with a sense of expectancy & certainty because God has promised that he would fill us with the Spirit. Wait with patience.



- How can we be filled with the Spirit?
- To be filled with the Spirit we need to wait on God in prayer. Jesus told his disciples "wait for the gift my Father promised."
- Acts tells us they prayed while they waited, Acts 1:14, "They all joined constantly together in prayer." They waited in unity, and they waited in prayer. They prayed for this promised gift. (purging; thickening) (Lk 11:13) (monastery)

