

“Something Essential is Missing” Outline

1. **Intro** - “If the Holy Ghost were taken away from our church to- day, 95% of what we do would continue and no one would notice the difference. If the Holy Ghost had withdrawn from the early church, then 95% of what they were doing would have stopped and everyone would have noticed the difference.” - A.W. Tozer
2. **Story** - Jesus’ Example of Prayer
 1. **Text** - “It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples.” And He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. ‘Give us each day our daily bread. ‘And forgive us our sins, For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.’”
 2. Then He said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; and from inside he answers and says, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ “I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.
 3. “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. “For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened. “Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? “Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”” (Luke 11:1–13 NAS95)
4. **Outline** -
 1. “His prayer lesson in Luke 11:1-13 has three parts:
 1. The Lord’s Prayer
 2. the parable of the friend coming at midnight
 3. and as a climax the con- tinual request for the Holy Ghost.” - Haubeil
 5. **Quote** - “Prayer will bring our wills, and thus our lives, into harmony with the will of God (see COL 143). It is the divinely appointed means of educating our desires. It is not the true purpose of prayer to work a change in God, but to work a change in us so that we desire “both to will and to do of his good pleasure” (Phil. 2:13).” - SDABC
3. **Quote** - “It seems that the Holy Spirit largely plays a minor role, if at all, in the daily lives of many Adventists and in church life. And yet this is the foundation for a joyful, attractive and fruit-bearing life in Christ.” 5 - Garrie F. Williams
4. **Concept** - “Doesn’t He clearly show us that we have to take action in order to be filled with the Holy Ghost? The last “ask” is used in the continu- ous tense in Greek. That means that we aren’t to ask only once, but rather to ask continuously. Here Jesus doesn’t only make asking a mat- ter of urgency but also expects us to continually do it.” - Helmut Haubeil
5. **Concept & Main Idea** - “This special invitation shows us that according to Jesus something essential is missing, when we don’t persistently ask for the Holy Ghost.” - Haubeil
6. **Example Prayer** - “Lord Jesus, I completely say yes to all the prerequisites for receiving the Holy Ghost. I sincerely ask that you now – for today – fulfill them in me.” - Haubeil pg. 14
7. **Concept** - Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and a grand display was made at His baptism, but did Jesus live by this example of consistent seeking of the Holy Spirit?

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1. **Text** - “Then Jesus got up early in the morning when it was still very dark, departed, and went out to a deserted place, and there he spent time in prayer.” (Mark 1:35 NET)
2. **Quote** - “Morning by morning he communicated with his Father in heaven, receiving from him daily a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit.” ST 11/21/1895
3. **Quote** - “To the consecrated worker there is wonderful consolation in the knowledge that even Christ during His life on earth sought His Father daily for fresh supplies of need- ed grace” - AA pg 56
4. **Question** - If Jesus daily needed a refreshing from the Holy Ghost, then how much more important is it for you and me?
8. **Concept** - Paul’s assurance of our identity in the Spirit
 1. **Text** - “In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.” (Ephesians 1:13–14 NAS95)
 2. **Text** - “For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on the earth is named. I pray that according to the wealth of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner person, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, so that, because you have been rooted and grounded in love, you may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and thus to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.”
 3. (Ephesians 3:14–19 NET)
9. **Concept** - Jesus gave the same assurance -
 1. **Text** - ““But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.” (John 16:7 NAS95)
 2. **Quote** - “This means that the new solution, that He is with us through the Holy Ghost, is more advantageous than Jesus being personally present. In this way He isn’t limited, but rather He can be by each person, no matter where He currently is.” - Haubeil pg. 16
10. **Appeal Story** - Rough Teenager who responded to a request to pray for the Holy Spirit when encountering struggles in a new school - “his classmates can confirm that God is at work, you can see the fruits every day and he was baptized in June 2013.
11. **Appeal Prayer** - “Father in heaven, thank you for Jesus’ urgent invitation to ask for the Holy Ghost. I am sorry for the losses I have experienced because of a lack of the Holy Ghost. I need divine assistance so that Jesus can become greater in me. I need His help in every area of my life. Thank you that the Holy Ghost can change my character and can make me fit for God’s kingdom. I completely surrender myself to you with all that I am and have. Thank you for accepting me and giving me your blessings. Help me to grow in knowledge about the Holy Ghost. Amen.”
12. Next Sabbath’s Sermon - “Three Basic Attitudes Towards Go