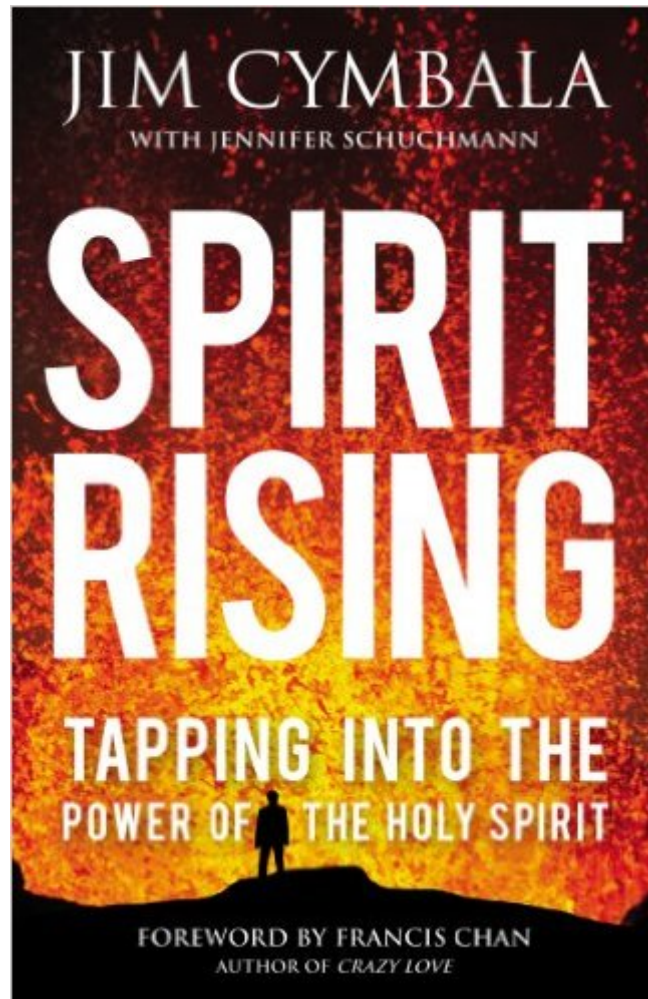


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# Spirit Rising: Tapping Into The Power Of The Holy Spirit



## Synopsis

What will God do when you open your life to the Holy Spirit? Christianity is impossible without the Holy Spirit. So why do we talk so little about him? In *Spirit Rising*, Pastor Jim Cymbala combines biblical insights with stunning stories of the Holy Spirit's work to help you experience God's power in a new way. Nothing will change your prayer life, your church, or your study of God's Word more than opening your heart to the Spirit. So if you want more excitement and joy, come discover a deeper understanding of how the Holy Spirit moves—and how you can join him. Jim Cymbala invites you and me to raise our sails and ride the warm winds of God's Spirit. His careful study and personal credibility merge to create this guide to power-packed living. Max Lucado, Pastor and bestselling author

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## Customer Reviews

"Only the Holy Spirit can make the things of Christ real and alive to people," writes Jim Cymbala in his new book, *Spirit Rising*. As Francis Chan puts it in the Foreword, "This book is not about asking for the Holy Spirit's help. It is about asking Him to take over." With the passion of an Old Testament prophet, Cymbala writes with a Biblical foundation and stories of life transformation. The power of the Holy Spirit is not a phenomenon of 2,000 years ago, but the potential transforming power of the Holy Spirit in one's life today. The book is divided into 3 parts: 1. God's Agent on Earth In this first part, Cymbala looks at who the Holy Spirit is. He sees the Holy Spirit as being "underappreciated and underpreached in the twenty-first-century church." He seeks to give the Holy Spirit "His due". I appreciate his emphasis on the work of the Spirit. The Bible is clear about the transforming work of

the Holy Spirit in one's life. The activity of the Spirit is not limited to the stories of the Scriptures, but are seen in the transforming work He does through the Scriptures in changing lives.<sup>2</sup> When God's Spirit Moves When God's Spirit moves the Word of God comes alive in the lives of people. Joy becomes a reality in life no matter the circumstances and Cymbala uses some dire circumstances in people's lives to show how joy still came through. When God's Spirit moves there is power and there is love. As God's people gather in prayer and immerse themselves in the Word, they hear the Spirit speak and they see the Spirit move.<sup>3</sup> When We Surrender to the Holy Spirit Remember this is book is not about getting the Holy Spirit's help in life, it is surrendering to the Holy Spirit's work.

For my sermon this week at Revolution on Ephesians 1:15 - 23 I read through Jim Cymbala's book Spirit Rising: Tapping into the Power of the Holy Spirit. While I don't agree with all of Cymbala's theology, when it comes to the Holy Spirit, he has truly seen some incredible things. I'm always challenged by books or sermons by people of great faith, prayer warriors so to speak. Cymbala is one of those people. I've been convinced of what Cymbala talks about in this book in my own life and in the lives of many Christians. We just don't see the Spirit working like it is recorded in the New Testament. Think about, does your life, prayer life, courage, boldness, evangelism, does it look anything like the book of Acts? If I'm honest, most of the time my life doesn't read like a page from Acts. For many Christians though, we don't see the Holy Spirit work in our lives, because we aren't sure what He does. Here are just a few things from Scripture about what the Holy Spirit does: -The Spirit helps us speak when we are in precarious situations and need to bear witness (Mark 13:11; Luke 12:12). -The Spirit teaches and reminds us of what we need to know and remember. He is our comforter, our advisor, our encourager, and our strength. He guides us in the way we should go (Psalm 143:10; John 14 - 16; Acts 9:31, 13:2, 15:28; 1 Corinthians 2:9 - 10; 1 John 5:6 - 8). -From the Spirit we receive power to be God's witnesses to the ends of the earth. It is the Spirit who draws people to the gospel, the Spirit who equips us with the strength we need to accomplish God's purposes. The Holy Spirit not only initially draws people to God, He also draws believers closer to Jesus (Acts 1:8; Romans 8:26; Ephesians 3:16 - 19).

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