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Personal Spiritual Formation
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I was born into the Pentecostal religion and stayed a part of it for a huge majority of my life. We believed heavily in speaking in tongues and being filled with the Holy Spirit. We also believed in prophetic speaking. In my old church, every Sunday, usually during worship, a member of the church (usually the same man) would walk up to the microphone and give a word in tongues and then another member would come up right after and give the interpretation of the word. This became my normal growing up in a Pentecostal church. It wasn't until about three years ago that I switched because of new beliefs and discoveries. However, with being born into Pentecostal traditions, I was very surprised to learn that I did not know much about how it even got started. This article taught me some stuff that I never knew. For example, I did not know that in the early 20th century, the early Pentecost lived on the poorer side of town. I also did not know that this led them to spread out into the landscape of Christianity. One thing however that I did know was the article was talking about revival and how before one revival ends, the next one is already being planned. I know about this because I remember my pastor always talking about how a new revival was coming and that it was going to be greater than the one that was already happening currently. I even remember when prophetic speakers would come to the church and prophecy about a new revival and that we needed to be ready for it or we would miss out on the blessing that God was trying to give us.

Pentecostals and Charismatics have different ways of transformation and one of those ways is through baptism. Normally when a person gets baptized in the Pentecostal church, it is like a big celebration. Friends and family all gather and there is a service. Worship normally happens first and then the pastor will get in the water to start the baptism. Each person would go in one by one and the pastor would normally say something along the lines of "Do you believe the Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for your sins", to which the person would reply yes with a follow up from the pastor saying "I now baptize you in the name of the Father, The Son, and of the Holy Spirit" and then the individual is submerged into the water completely then pulled back up. After they resurface from the water, friends, family members, and the church praise the individual of them being born again in Christ. I have been baptized twice, once into the Pentecostal tradition and again into my beliefs now. I am not saying that I do not believe fully in the Pentecostal traditions but I do however do not believe in everything that they stand for like I used to but I do not judge anyone that follows it.