

THE HOLY SPIRIT
Session Four
Wednesday, November 29, 2017

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - Part 3

Brief Review:

- The Holy Spirit is the third Member of the Trinity: God, the Father; God, the Son (Jesus) and The Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit is a Person (not an “it)
- The Holy Spirit empowers individuals and churches to do the work of God, which is impossible to do by human strength and mind alone.
- In empowering us, the Holy Spirit bestows remarkable gifts. James 1:17
Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.
 - ▶ Gifts of Ministry: Ephes. 4:7-8 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. [8] Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. [11] **And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;**
 - ▶ Other Ministry Gifts: Romans 12:6-13 **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; [7] Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; [8] Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. [9] Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. [10] Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; [11] Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; [12] Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; [13] Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.**

THE GIFTS OF I CORINTHIANS 12

1 1 Cor. 12:1-11

2 **Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. [2] Ye**
3 **know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were**
4 **led. [3] Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of**
5 **God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by**
6 **the Holy Ghost. [4] Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. [5] And**
7 **there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. [6] And there are**
8 **diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. [7] But the**
9 **manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. [8] For to one is**
10 **given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the**
11 **same Spirit; [9] To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing**
12 **by the same Spirit; [10] To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to**
13 **another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the**
14 **interpretation of tongues: [11] But all these worketh that one and the selfsame**
15 **Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.**

16
17 Note verse one: Paul's concern – "I don't want you (believers) to be ignorant
18 (uninformed) ..." About the gifts of the Spirit.

19
20 It is important that we have knowledge of the spiritual gifts. Give times in his epistles he
21 repeats that he did not want Christians to be uninformed about vital truths.

22 Romans 1:13

23 **Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come**
24 **unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even**
25 **as among other Gentiles.**

26 1 Cor. 10:1

27 **Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our**
28 **fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;**

29 1 Cor. 12:1

30 **Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.**

31 2 Cor. 1:8

32 **For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in**
33 **Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we**
34 **despaired even of life:**

35 1 Thes. 4:13

36 **But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are**
37 **asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.**

38
39 Knowledge is essential - not only KNOWING ABOUT the gifts, but their PROPER
40 UTILIZATION in the cause of Christ.

1 THE WORD OF WISDOM

2
3 I Cor. 12:8 “The Spirit gives one person a message full of wisdom....” The KJV says,
4 “For to one is given, by the Spirit, the WORD of wisdom...”

5
6 Wisdom is good judgment based upon knowledge....but this gift is far more than even
7 that. The key word in this sentence is WORD. The Greek rendering is LOGOS.
8 Logos means “the matter of, the subject of, the essence of....” Note: THE WORD OF
9 WISDOM THEN IS AN EXPRESSION FROM GOD, not just an expression of wisdom.
10 This “word” is directly from God Himself.

11
12 The expression “word of wisdom” speaks of “a small portion.” In other words, in a
13 moment of need or crisis, God gives a person that small part of HIS WISDOM that
14 speaks to the problem at hand.

15
I like this definition: The word of wisdom is a little of God’s wisdom spoken at the proper time!

16 The word of wisdom is entirely supernatural. A college experience does not provide
17 this. These are GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT. The late, great English Pentecostal teacher,
18 Donald Gee, explained: *In a manifestation of the word of wisdom something flashes.*
19 *There is a sense of the divine (that is, God) a consciousness of an utterance*
20 *transcending all the stores of human experience. One is deeply conscious that the*
21 *right thing has been said.*

22
23 THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

24
25 1 Cor. 12:8

26 **For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of**
27 **knowledge by the same Spirit;**

28
29 Note with each gift Paul describes, he always makes it very plain that the gift is from the
30 Holy Spirit.

31
32 Knowledge means “knowing.” The word of wisdom is an expression of knowledge.
33 But WHOSE KNOWLEDGE? The Holy Spirit’s! Through the Word of
34 Knowledge, the Holy Spirit makes the believer able to speak forth a bit of God’s
35 knowledge. This is knowledge that cannot be gained by a person’s mental faculties. It
36 is a revelation from God Himself.

1 Here is a scriptural actual case in point, concerning the believer in Damascus whom God
2 sent to assist the stricken Saul of Tarsus:

3
4 Acts 9:10-18

5 **[10] And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him**
6 **said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. [11] And**
7 **the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and**
8 **enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,**
9 **[12] And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his**
10 **hand on him, that he might receive his sight. [13] Then Ananias answered, Lord, I**
11 **have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at**
12 **Jerusalem: [14] And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that**
13 **call on thy name. [15] But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen**
14 **vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of**
15 **Israel: [16] For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.**
16 **[17] And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands**
17 **on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way**
18 **as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with**
19 **the Holy Ghost. [18] And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales:**
20 **and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.**

21
22 Ananias KNEW where Saul was (verse 11)

23 He KNEW Saul was praying (verse 11)

24 He KNEW Saul had seen a vision (verse 12)

25 He KNEW Saul was a chosen vessel (verse 15)

26 He KNEW that Saul would suffer for the Lord (verse 16)

27
28 The word of Knowledge is more than man's thoughts. It a "for the moment" realization
29 of the mind of God.

30 31 FAITH

32
33 1 Cor. 12:9 **To another faith by the same Spirit;**

34
35 The gift of FAITH is beyond ordinary faith. It is a special faith, given by the Holy Spirit,
36 to meet a special need. The gift is dropped into a person's heart at a special time for a
37 special need.

38
39 You need to realize that: **FAITH IS ALWAYS BASED ON KNOWLEDGE. IF WE**
40 **HAVE LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, WE HAVE LITTLE FAITH!**

1 In Scripture we have so many instances of special faith. Such as this one:

2
3 Acts 3:1-11

4 **Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being**
5 **the ninth hour. [2] And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried,**
6 **whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms**
7 **of them that entered into the temple; [3] Who seeing Peter and John about to go into**
8 **the temple asked an alms. [4] And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John,**
9 **said, Look on us. [5] And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of**
10 **them. [6] Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I**
11 **thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. [7] And he took him**
12 **by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ancle bones**
13 **received strength. [8] And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them**
14 **into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. [9] And all the people saw**
15 **him walking and praising God: [10] And they knew that it was he which sat for alms**
16 **at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement**
17 **at that which had happened unto him. [11] And as the lame man which was healed**
18 **held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called**
19 **Solomon's, greatly wondering.**

20
21 This poor fellow had sat at the Beautiful Gate for about 40 years. It was impossible for
22 him to be cured by medical science at that time. Suddenly Peter discovered special faith
23 in his own heart.

24
25 Bear in mind that all of these Gifts of the Holy Spirit are to honor Christ and to build His
26 Church.

27 28 GIFTS OF HEALING

29
30 1 Cor. 12:9

31 **To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same**
32 **Spirit;**

33
34 You will note immediately that these gifts (plural) of healing are given by no one other
35 than the Holy Spirit. There have often been people in church claiming they can give
36 healing gifts; they are charlatans. Will you believe them? Or the Scripture?

37
38 Healing means "to make whole." We have noted already there are GIFTS of healing,
39 more than one. More about that in a moment.

1 It is important to note that just because a person is ill he or she has sinned. Jesus made
2 that very clear in John 9:3: **Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his**
3 **parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.** Nor does
4 illness mean a person has little or no faith.

5
6 Why “gifts?” Plural. Because there are so many kinds of sickness, both physical and
7 mental. In Scripture you find:

- 8 • Lameness (infirmity) Acts 3:2 **And a certain man lame from his**
9 **mother’s womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the**
10 **temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into**
11 **the temple;**
- 12 • Palsy (paralysis) Acts 8:7 **For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice,**
13 **came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with**
14 **palsies, and that were lame, were healed.**
- 15 • Blindness Acts 9:17-18 **And Ananias went his way, and entered into**
16 **the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord,**
17 **even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath**
18 **sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the**
19 **Holy Ghost. [18] And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had**
20 **been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was**
21 **baptized.**
- 22 • Fever Acts 28:8 **And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay**
23 **sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and**
24 **prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.**

25 I could fill a lot of pages with such scriptures. Note that each time this healing miracle
26 is mentioned in I Corinthians it is listed in the plural. It is the only gift of the nine in I
27 Cor 12 so listed.

28
29 Jesus used many ways of implementing healing to people:

- 30 • A touch Matthew 8:3 **And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him,**
31 **saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.**
- 32 • A spoken word Matthew 8:5-13 **And when Jesus was entered into**
33 **Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, [6] And**
34 **saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously**
35 **tormented. [7] And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.:**
36 **there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [13] And Jesus said unto**
37 **the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto**
38 **thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.**
- 39 • Placing mud on the eyes of a blind man John 9:6 **When he had thus**
40 **spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he**

1 **anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,**

2
3 However healing is administered by the Lord is up to Him. We do not dictate it. We
4 give God the glory for it all!

5
6 **THE WORKING OF MIRACLES**

7
8 **1 Cor. 12:10 To another the working of miracles;**

9
10 A great preacher of the past said, “The working of miracles is a supernatural
11 manifestation of the power of God that alters (changes) or in some way controls the laws
12 of nature.” (Howard Carter)

13
14 So many such miracles are recorded in scripture: Israel crossing the Red Sea Exodus
15 14:21-23 **And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the**
16 **sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and**
17 **the waters were divided. [22] And the children of Israel went into the midst of the**
18 **sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand,**
19 **and on their left.**

20
21 Moses and the water from a rock Exodus 17:5-6 **[5] And the Lord said unto Moses,**
22 **Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod,**
23 **wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go. [6] Behold, I will stand**
24 **before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there**
25 **shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight**
26 **of the elders of Israel.**

27
28 Elijah calling down fire from Heaven 1 Kings 18:37-38 **Hear me, O Lord, hear me,**
29 **that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned**
30 **their heart back again. [38] Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt**
31 **sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that**
32 **was in the trench.**

33
34 In the mighty book of Acts we read of many miracles. Prison doors were opened.
35 Earthquakes shook cities. These miracles led to the spreading of Christ’s Gospel.
36 Miracles are not “common,” as some would have you to believe - or they wouldn’t really
37 be called miracles, would they? But they DO happen in our lifetimes. Were I to write
38 my memoirs, I could list a number of them that I have seen. There is no other
39 explanation for them except “but God....”

1 PROPHECY

2
3 1 Cor. 12:10 ...to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits;

4
5 Most theology books describe this divine gift as one of two things:

- 6 • Foretelling (predictions)
7 • Forthtelling- proclaiming the Gospel with a special unction (anointing)

8
9 One can make a case for both, although I find that foretelling is a very rare activity
10 compared to the constant anointing a Spirit-filled speaker finds in declaring the Gospel
11

My late, great friend, and former General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, Ralph Riggs, said prophecy is “speaking one’s own language in the power of the Holy Spirit or the divine ability to forthtell as well as to foretell.”

12 In a previous lesson we learned that the Holy Spirit has given the Church the gift of
13 prophets. Ephes. 4:11 **And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some,**
14 **evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;**

15
16 What is the difference between prophets and prophecy? The gift of prophets is the gift of
17 full-time leadership to the body of Christ. The gift of prophecy is the gift of inspired
18 utterance. The gift of prophecy is for a rather small number of the body’s members.
19 The gift of prophecy can be experienced by all of the members. 1 Cor. 14:31 **For ye**
20 **may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.**

21
22 Can we rate the Gifts of the Spirit in importance? Yes. Scripture has already done that.
23 1 Cor. 14:1 **Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may**
24 **prophesy.** This would certainly mean anointed declaration of the Gospel. Why is it
25 rated first? Because it builds up the spiritual lives of God’s people.

26
27 The great value of this was found on the Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit was poured
28 out (Acts 2) and almost at once the gift of prophecy was manifested in Peter’s sermon.
29 This was no ordinary message and thousands accepted Christ that day. **PROPHECY IS**
30 **NOT GIFTED HUMAN SPEECH OR PERSUASION!** It is fully divine utterance.

31
32 DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

33
34 1 Cor. 12:10
35 ...to another discerning of spirits;

1 I have heard people declare, “I have the gift of discernment.” That is not scripturally
2 accurate, nor is such a “gift” of the Spirit. It is the GIFT OF DISCERNING SPIRITS!

3
4 Satan is a great counterfeiter. He attempts to duplicate or copy the works of the Holy
5 Spirit. He often fools even believers. (And, by the way, there is also the “human
6 spirit” which is just pure flesh, not God.)

7
8 How do we know the difference?

9
10 By the way, at times Satan’s work can be clearly recognized without this Gift in
11 operation. For example: Paul warned the church in Corinth that anyone who calls Jesus
12 accursed is certainly NOT speaking for God: 1 Cor. 12:3 **Wherefore I give you to**
13 **understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and**
14 **that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.**

15
16 Jesus certainly had the Gift of Discerning of Spirits. He discerned the good spirit in
17 Nathanael: John 1:47 **Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him,**
18 **Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!**

19
20 Then Jesus discerned a bad spirit in James and John, who wanted to call down fire from
21 Heaven to destroy anyone rejecting Christ: Luke 9:55 **But he turned, and rebuked**
22 **them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.**

23
24 Peter exercised this Gift in the early church regarding Ananias and Sapphira. He knew
25 they were lying to the Holy Spirit: Acts 5:3 **But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan**
26 **filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the**
27 **land?**

28
29 There are numerous such instances throughout the New Testament.

30
31 Evil spirits try to get believers to accept false teaching. Pastor John warned his church
32 about this: 1 John 2:26-27 **These things have I written unto you concerning them**
33 **that seduce you. [27] But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in**
34 **you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth**
35 **you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall**
36 **abide in him.**

37
38 In this day of mass communication and many “wolves” out there to deceive believers, this
39 gift of discerning of spirits is desperately needed! And - knowing God’s Word yourself
40 is a great bulwark against the wolves.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES

1
2
3 1 Cor. 12:10 ...to another divers kinds of tongues;
4

5 “Tongues” means “languages.” 1 Cor. 13:1 **Though I speak with the tongues of men**
6 **and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling**
7 **cymbal.**
8

9 The gift of tongues is the ability given to the believer, by the Holy Spirit, by which he or
10 she can speak languages never learned. It may be some language of earth, or a language
11 of angels.
12

- 13 • Tongues is a gift all may have. 1 Cor. 14:5 **I would that ye all spake with**
14 **tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than**
15 **he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may**
16 **receive edifying.**
- 17 • Tongues is a gift you can manifest anytime, silently or out loud. 1 Cor. 14:28
18 **But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him**
19 **speak to himself, and to God.**
20

21 In most Pentecostal churches we believe that tongues is the initial (first), physical
22 evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit was first poured out on
23 the Day of Pentecost, all who were present in the Upper Room spoke with tongues. That
24 involved the twelve apostles and more than one hundred others. Further, whenever
25 people were baptized in the Holy Spirit in the early church, they spoke with tongues,
26 according to the book of Acts.
27

INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

28
29
30 1 Cor. 12:10 ... to another the interpretation of tongues:
31

32 Interpretation means “explanation.” It does NOT mean translation. Translation means
33 to say the same thing in another language. Interpretation means giving the basic meaning
34 of what was uttered.
35

36 Speaking in tongues in a public service without an interpretation violates scriptural
37 instruction. Why? Because the gift of interpretation is to build up Christ’s body, not to
38 degrade someone or call attention to anyone other than Christ Himself.
39

40 NEXT WEEK: THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT