

"GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier
Bishop Edward A. Smith

INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

Life Group Lesson Objective: To gain a deeper understanding and to embrace the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Life Group Leader preparation:

Reference: Kenneth E. Hagin – “The Gifts of the Holy Spirit”

To encourage life group members to desire and seek God to manifest himself more through these gifts in our everyday life. Read 1 Cor 12 & 14

" . . . If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23).

Gifts of the Holy Spirit are generally divided as follows:

- 1) Three revelation gifts, Spiritual gifts that reveal something:
 - The word of wisdom
 - The word of knowledge
 - The discerning of spirits
- 2) Three power gifts Spiritual gifts that do something:
 - The gift of faith
 - The working of miracles
 - The gifts of healings
- 3) Three utterance or inspirational gifts Spiritual gifts that say something:
 - Prophecy
 - Divers kinds of tongues
 - Interpretation of tongues

The Holy Spirit: God's Promise to You
ACTS 1:5, 8

WEEK #1: Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware – I Cor 14:1 NASB

Group Discussion Questions: What concerns do you have about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

- I would not have you ignorant – KJV
 - **Hosea 4:6** - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:
 - **Isaiah 5:13** - Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because [they have] no knowledge:
 - **John 8:32** - And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

God’s desire is for you to have an understanding about the Holy Spirit’s gifts.

- James 3:17 – But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy

The Holy Spirit is for Believers

John 14:26 – Jesus said “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things...” – NASB

- The Holy Spirit will teach you about himself

The world cannot receive the promise of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth. The world can only receive eternal life. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have EVERLASTING LIFE" (John 3:16).

- Jesus Christ is God's Gift to the world. The world can receive Christ as Savior. A sinner can be born again. But a person must be born again before he can receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is a He, not an it! Are you comfortable with Him and his gifts? He is a person, just like Jesus was person.....

- *Acts 1:8 – but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth. NASB*

Discussion Question: Are you comfortable with the Holy Spirit in you to share Christ with unbelievers? Give an example of how the Holy Spirit has used you or is using you to be a witness for Christ.

WEEK #2: Revelation Gifts

Group Discussion Questions: Are you familiar with the gifts of the Holy Spirit? Have you witnessed the operation/manifestation through others or yourself? Describe.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

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Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all *persons*.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:7

Three revelation gifts Spiritual gifts that reveal something:

God has all knowledge. He knows everything, but He never reveals to anyone everything He knows. He just gives various people a word, a part, or a fragment of what He knows. A word of knowledge, for example, is just a fragmentary part of God's knowledge. And so, it is with the gift of the word of wisdom; it is not the gift of wisdom, it is the word of wisdom. God has all wisdom and all knowledge. But He only reveals a part of it to man

The word of wisdom – supernatural revelation of the plan and purpose of God
Acts 13:1-4 – Men set apart by the Holy Spirit to accomplish God's purpose

The Word of knowledge – not natural knowledge – supernatural revelation

Paul said, "STUDY to shew thyself approved ..." (2 Tim. 2:15).

- So that kind of knowledge — a profound knowledge of the Bible — comes by studying,
- but the “Word of Knowledge” comes by a supernatural revelation.

- Acts 5:1-4 1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, AND TO KEEP BACK PART OF THE PRICE OF THE LAND? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

- Acts 10:9-19 – Peter received a supernatural revelation — a word of knowledge: ". . . Behold, three men seek thee" (Acts 10:19). Peter did not know there were three men who were seeking him (v. 19). He had fallen into a trance and had seen the vision of the sheet descending out of heaven. While Peter was thinking about what that vision meant, the Holy Spirit told him that three men were seeking him. The men were already standing at the gate. Peter hadn't seen these men.
 - He had no way of knowing they were there except by the Spirit of God.

The Discerning of Spirits – supernaturally being made aware of demonic or angelic spirits

- Discerning of spirits & working of miracles:
- Acts 16:16-40 King James Version (KJV) And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:
 - Heb 5:14 – teaches having trained your senses (naturally) to discern between good and evil – this is not the discerning of spirits...comes by reading and studying God's word...to know the difference between right and wrong in the sight of God.

Three utterance or inspirational gifts Spiritual gifts that say something:

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Prophecy – 1 Corinthians 14:1 we read: "Follow after charity [love], and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may PROPHECY

- Prophecy – “he that prophesies speaketh to men to edification and exhortation and comfort. – 1 Cor 14:2; also speaks to the whole church – vs4
- Tongues - He that speaks in an unknown tongue edifies himself, – I Cor 14:4

Prophecy is the better gift only because the entire Church is edified.

Divers kinds of tongues -

- Very often these gifts work together, as tongues and interpretation
- **Interpretation of tongues** – message of tongues in your known language. This is not a translation.

NOTE: Word of Knowledge may come through tongues and interpretation of tongues, or through the gift of prophecy

1 Corinthians 12:11 – one and the same Holy Spirit working all these things, distributing to each one individual just as He wills.

Let's be honest – Discussion: Has God ever used you in one of the utterance gifts, please share circumstances?

Week #3 – Power Gifts (they do something)

Discussion Question: What are some miracles of the Bible - Old & New Testament?

1. Gift of Faith:

The gift of faith – supernatural ability to RECEIVE miracles

- Difference than “living by faith” (Romans 1:17) up to the believer to hear the word and believe; the gift of faith is as the Spirit wills
- This gift is a special faith” – not “by faith are you saved...”
- The gift of faith is a gift of the Spirit to the believer in order that **he might receive miracles.**

This gift of faith was manifested for supernatural sustenance in the time of famine. In the case of Elijah when he was fed by the ravens (1 Kings 17:3-6). Elijah's faith had to be given to him supernaturally because it was beyond ordinary faith to believe that

- ravens would feed him. But they brought food to him morning and night.

2. Working of Miracles: A miracle can be defined as a supernatural intervention by God in the ordinary course of nature.

A gift of the Spirit given to the believer the **he might WORK miracles.** One gift receives (gift of faith), the other does something (working of miracles). Notice the Bible says, "To another the WORKING of miracles, 1 Cor 12:10."

When Daniel was in the lions' den, he received a miracle. In those days as well as throughout history, there have been those who were thrown to the lions and the lions devoured them. Why didn't the lions devour Daniel? The Bible says that ". . . Daniel

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was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God" (Dan. 6:23). There is no doubt that God gave Daniel special faith, a special manifestation of this gift of the Spirit, to receive deliverance. Daniel didn't do anything. He just lay down and went to sleep. His faith was passive rather than active, yet he received a miracle.

NOTE: The difference between the working of miracles is that the gift of working of miracles(actively) does, and the gift of special faith (passively) receives.

Casting Out Demons:

Another area in which the gift of faith operates together with other gifts of the Spirit is the area of casting out evil spirits. In casting out demons, the gift of discerning of spirits and/or the gift of the word of knowledge, as well as the gift of faith, are in operation. If you don't discern or see the spirit, very often the presence of the evil spirit is revealed through the word of knowledge. But the gift of faith still has to be exercised in casting out the spirit.

- We can't deal with the devil in our own strength. But God has given us His Word, His power, His authority, and all the spiritual equipment necessary to enforce Satan's defeat in our own lives. And a part of that spiritual equipment God has given us is this supernatural gift of faith.

Gifts of the Spirit Are Supernatural

There are some who say that some of the gifts of the Spirit are natural and some of them are supernatural. But if one of them is supernatural, then all of them are supernatural. Every single one of the gifts of the Spirit listed in First Corinthians 12:8-10 is a supernatural manifestation of the Holy Spirit.

For example, speaking in tongues is supernatural, not natural. Speaking in your own language isn't supernatural because you were taught how to speak that language. But you were never taught how to speak in tongues. Tongues — the supernatural utterance of the Holy Spirit — was divinely given when you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
(one of the gifts Satan fights so hard against)

Week #4 – Power Gifts, they do something

Discussion Question: How has this lesson affected you concerning God's supernatural intervention in to the lives of His people. Has it changed your view of signs, wonders and miracles?

Expect God to Work Miracles – He is the same yesterday today and forever
Heb 13:8

3. The Gifts of Healings:

The gifts of healings have nothing to do with medical science or human learning.

Gifts of Healings vs. Receiving by Faith

There is a difference between receiving healing through the manifestation of gifts of healings and just simply receiving healing by our own faith in God's Word. God has taught me through the years the difference between the two. Both are scriptural ways to receive healing.

If there is no gift of the Spirit in manifestation, people can always be healed and set free based on the Word of God. The Bible says it is the anointing, or the power of God, that breaks the yoke (Isa. 10:27). The anointing is on the Word of God.

But the healing that is supernatural doesn't come by diagnosis or by prescribing treatment. Divine healing comes by laying on of hands, anointing with oil, or sometimes just by speaking the Word, just to name a few examples from the Word of how healing is ministered.

The purpose of these gifts is to deliver the sick and to destroy the works of the devil in the human body.

If doctors and medical science were God's method of healing, medical treatment would always be free from errors; doctors would make no mistakes. However, we know that this is not true either. Doctors and medical science are natural means of healing. The gifts of healings and other methods of divine healing are supernatural.

We do not speak against, dismiss nor minimize about doctors, hospitals, and medical science because they do much good for humanity. We thank God for the number of good Christian and secular physicians who have the best interest of their patients at heart and who minister to them with their natural human ability as trained physicians.

- How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and power: who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38

Let's be honest – Discussion: What are other ways of healings?