

Life in the Spirit

05/23/2007

Revelatory Gifts

Prophecy, words of knowledge, words of wisdom – what are these gifts and how do we operate in them? (_____)

One of the attributes of the person of the Holy Spirit is the capability to bestow divine and spiritual gifts upon the church. These mighty enablements are free. (They are gifts) They become more abundant through operation of faith.

Here is one way to view these gifts (Estella, I added this phrase because I don't want people to think this is the only way to categorize these gifts.)

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

1. Words of wisdom	Revelatory Gift
2. Word of knowledge	Revelatory Gift
3. Faith	The Gift of Power
4. Healing	The Gift of Power
5. Working of Miracles	The Gift of Power
6. Prophecy	The Gift of Inspiration
7. Discernment	Revelatory Gifts
8. Different Tongues	The Gift of Inspiration
9. Interpretation of Tongues	The Gift of Inspiration

1. **The Revelatory Gifts:**

In the gifts of revelation, God reveals something from heaven to man – This revelation is something man cannot know any other way.

Matthew 16:17 (NCV) Jesus answered, “ you are blessed, Simon son of Jonah, because no person taught you that. My Father in heaven showed you who I am.”

A. [The word of wisdom](#) reveals the prophetic future under God's anointing.

1 Corinthians 2:7 (NCV) I speak God's secret wisdom, which He has kept hidden. Before the world began, God planned this wisdom for our glory. (Read the rest of this chapter.)

B. [The word of knowledge](#) is the revelation of a fact currently in existence. This fact cannot be seen or heard naturally. It is knowledge supernaturally revealed by God.

C. The discerning of spirits has to do with the comprehension of the human spirit as supernaturally revealed by the Holy Spirit.

At Willow we use the word “revelatory” to describe both these gifts and the gifts of prophecy, tongues & discernment of spirits.

Acts 13:9,10 (NCV) “But Saul, who is also called Paul, was filled with the Holy Spirit. He looked straight at Elymas, and said, “ you son of the devil! You are an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of evil tricks and lies.”

2. The Gifts of Power:

A. The working of miracles occurs when, through the human instruments of hands, eyes, mouth or feet, a person supernaturally does something by the divine energy of the Holy Spirit. An example occurred when Samson killed a lion with his bare hands.

B) The gifts of faith occur when God brings a supernatural thing to pass without any human effort.

Matthew 21:19 (NCV) Seeing a fig tree beside the road, Jesus went to it, but there was no figs on the tree, only leaves. So Jesus said to the tree, “ you will never again have fruit.” The tree immediately dried up.

C. The gifts of healing occur when God supernaturally heals the sick. This is the only plural gift.

How many gifts of healing are there? It is possible that there are as many categories of disease as there were stripes on Jesus’ back. This means 39 different areas of sickness, such as congenital and organic ailments, sicknesses caused by neglect of the body, viruses, etc. Regardless as to how many categories there are _ _ _with HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED! (Isaiah 53:5)

3. The Gifts of Inspiration:

A) The gift of prophecy occurs when an anointed person speaks words of edification, exhortation or comfort to the church. This speech comes supernaturally without human thought. This is one of the gifts that is regulated.

1Corinthians 14:29-33 (NCV) Only two or three prophets should speak, and the others should judge what they say. If a message from God comes to another person who is sitting, the first speaker should stop. You can all prophesy one after another. In this way all the people can be taught and encouraged. The spirits of the prophets are under control of the prophets themselves. God is not a God of confusion, but a God of peace.

B) The gift of speaking in tongues is the ministry of publicly proclaiming a message from God, which is not understood by the person giving it.

1 Corinthians 14:22 (NCV) So the gift of speaking in different languages is a sign for those who do not believe, not for those who do believe and prophecy is for people who do believe, not for those who do not believe.

C) The gift of interpretation of tongues occurs when a message given in another language is interpreted supernaturally by the Spirit. This interpretation does not actively involve the human mental facilities.

1 Corinthians 14:4 (NCV) The ones who speak in different languages are helping only themselves, but those who prophesy are helping the whole church.

4. The Gifts of the Spirit: Are to be used today. We are living near the end of the last days –

Acts 2:17,18 (NCV) God says; in the last days I will pour out My Spirit on all kinds of people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your young men will see visions, and Your old men will dream dreams.

God uses the Word to keep us on track, but the only way we can apply the Word of God is through the Spirit of God.

Discussion and demonstrations of the gifts of the Spirit should be based on God's Word. Gifts such as prophecy, words of wisdom, words of knowledge must be judged and held accountable to God's Word. The Holy Spirit will never contradict what has been written. The Holy Spirit inspired the Bible once and for all!

The Word must serve as a measuring line for all that we say and do.

The Holy Spirit equips the church with spiritual gifts in order that it may serve Christ because the Church is the Bride of Christ. As the Supreme Head of the church, Christ guides and directs believers through the work of the Holy Spirit. One of the key uses of the gifts is to give clarity and purpose.

Prophets guide, Apostles pave new trails, and those with gifts of discernment protect from demonic forces. When the Gifts of God's Spirit move among His people freely, the church functions correctly.

The believer is called to discover which gifts the Holy Spirit has given him or her as an individual.

1 Peter 4:10,11 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be all the Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!

Soul note:

Future vision; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 The promise of verse 9 would seem impossible without the fact of verse 10. The "things which God has prepared" for His people – the future blessings in heaven with Him – are not seen, heard, or even imagined by ordinary humans. Yet believers can see, hear, and imagine these blessings because God has revealed them to us through His Spirit."

The presence of the Holy Spirit in believers' lives gives comfort and guidance as we live on this earth; His presence also gives solid assurance of our future in heaven.