



LIFE GROUP NOTES
For week commencing: 07/07/2024

Holy Spirit

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit - Revelation

Life Group Activities

Use the Three Thirds structure for your gathering together.

Looking Back

- Mutual Care – How are you doing?

- Worship & Prayer
 - Worship
 - Pray
 - Communion

- Loving Accountability
 - How did you follow?
 - How did you fish? (Ask how many gospel shares in the last week)

- Vision Cast – Why are we meeting like this?
 - Talk about your vision for social events / outreach and how you will care and encourage one another.

Looking up

Discovery Bible Study The Gifts of the Holy Spirit - Revelation

The preaching notes are added at the end of the notes.

- Review and summarise the series on the Holy Spirit so far
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
- How would you describe:
 - Wisdom
 - Knowledge
- Who are these gifts available to?
- When do you think that the Holy Spirit will impart these gifts for use in the church and in everyday life?
- Share stories of when you have seen either of these two gifts at work in your life.
- How are you going to apply this teaching to your life?

Looking Forward

- Practice – Practice the Three Circles or your People Map
- Set Goals:
 - Use C.O.S.T.
 - Connect – How am I going to connect with God this week?
 - Obey – How am I going to be obedient this week?
 - Share – Who am I going to share the gospel with or pray with this week?
 - Teach – Who can I encourage with this message this week?
- Pray together for the filling of the Holy Spirit

Preaching Notes for Reference

Gifts of Revelation

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (esp. v8)

- Review the teaching so far
 - The coming of the Holy Spirit
 - The Person of the Holy Spirit
 - How to be Filled with the Holy Spirit
 - The Fruit of the Spirit – Part 1 – Love, Joy, Peace
 - The Fruit of the Spirit - Part 2 – Patience, Kindness, Goodness
 - The Fruit of the Holy Spirit – Part 3 – Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control

Wisdom

- The supernatural application of knowledge.
- Wisdom as defined by the oxford dictionary is “the body of knowledge and experience that develops within a specified period” or “the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgement; the quality of being wise”
- The Word of Wisdom gives us the skill in knowing how and when to minister accurately by the Holy Spirit into peoples lives. It makes the timing right and enables the other Gifts to make a significant impact.
- I want to take some Biblical examples of the Gift of wisdom and apply these to different situations, that we may see how the spirit can lead us.
- The purpose of the Gift of Wisdom
 - To bring about God’s divine justice and righteousness in the world
 - To resolve conflict
 - To give pastoral advice
- Examples:
 - 1 Kings 3:16-28
 - Gen 41:33ff
 - Luke 20:20-26
- With these biblical examples I want to share some practical application and how we can use this gift of Wisdom to grow His Church.
 - Providing Financial Guidance – Example: Advising congregation members on managing their finances, particularly during economic hardships.
 - Application of Biblical Wisdom:
 - Justice and Righteousness: Teaching principles of stewardship, honesty, and generosity, helping individuals manage their resources wisely. Setting priorities in their giving first before earthly demands.

- Conflict Resolution: By offering practical advice on budgeting, saving, and giving, the elder helps families avoid financial stress and conflicts.
- Pastoral Advice: Provides guidance on avoiding debt, making wise choices, and trusting God for provision, ensuring financial decisions align with biblical principles.
- It's in this example we need spiritual wisdom, the one giving input may be the best budgeter around, however the gift of wisdom will allow for the advice and guidance to be well timed, appropriate, delivered in the right manner.
- Navigating Ethical Dilemmas in the Workplace - Example: A Christian who works in secular business when faced with ethical dilemmas such as fair treatment of employees, honest business practices, or environmental responsibility will need the wisdom of the Spirit to handle these situations.
- Application of Biblical Wisdom:
 - Justice and Righteousness: The employee applies biblical principles of integrity, fairness, and care for creation, ensuring business practices honour God.
 - Conflict Resolution: By harbouring and fostering a culture of transparency and accountability, the employee addresses potential conflicts and promotes a harmonious work environment.
 - Pastoral Advice: The employee mentors other employees, encouraging them to balance work, family, and faith, and to act ethically in all their dealings.
- Counselling on Family Issues - Example: A church pastoral worker, lifegroup leader or friend who is working with families facing marital issues, parenting challenges, cultural, or generational conflicts. (Also within Church family)
- Application of Biblical Wisdom:
 - Justice and Righteousness: The one providing input helps families understand and apply biblical teachings on love, respect, and responsibility, kingdom culture above Earthly culture.
 - Conflict Resolution: By using scriptural insights, the counsellor facilitates effective communication and reconciliation among family members.
 - Pastoral Advice: The counsellor provides support and guidance on building strong, loving relationships grounded in faith.
- Addressing Social Injustices - Example: A Christian church member advocating for social justice issues such as racial equality, poverty alleviation, social equality, human trafficking etc...
- Application of Biblical Wisdom:
 - Justice and Righteousness: The church member promotes biblical principles of equality, dignity, and compassion for the marginalised and oppressed, demonstrates these attributes within their lives.
 - Conflict Resolution: By engaging in peaceful dialogue and promoting understanding, the church member helps bridge divides and bring about systemic change.
 - Pastoral Advice: The church member encourages the church to be actively involved in social justice, reflecting Christ's love and justice in the world.

- These examples illustrate how biblical wisdom can be effectively applied to our everyday issues, helping individuals and communities navigate complex challenges while upholding divine principles.
- We need the Spirit daily, we need the Spirit to go before us in situations and will loosen our tongue when we need to speak. Jesus said go and speak to the Gospel, the Gospel is the Good News of Christ, and the Spirit will guide you as you are obedient.
- Now let's see how the gift of Knowledge can be applied

Knowledge

- Earthly definition “facts, information and skill acquired through experience or education” or “awareness or familiarity gained by experiences of a fact or situation”
- Biblical explanation: “The revelation of facts past, present or future which were not learned through the efforts of the natural mind. God-given disclosures.”
- The Purpose of the Word of Knowledge:
 - To bring supernatural encouragement.
 - To give confirmation to what God has already been saying or doing.
 - To give insight and understanding of what is ahead in the purposes of God.
 - To help in counselling/evangelistic situations.
 - To unlock hindrances to healing/unanswered prayers.
 - To give strategies in spiritual warfare.
 - To reveal where sin is being covered up.
 - To open up a meeting or situation for God to move.
- Examples:
 - Jesus telling Peter where to find his taxation money - in a fish's mouth! (Matthew 17:27)
 - Ananias in the conversion of Paul (Acts 9,22 and 26).
 - Cornelius in finding Peter, who then was instrumental in bringing the Holy Spirit to the Gentiles (Acts 10).
- These gifts are for use in all situations, at work, in the home, community and in the church.
- They are given as the Holy Spirit wills, so we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit and walk closely with Him each day.
- If you see, all build up the church or individual, these aren't to belittle, reduce or lower anyone, but to build up God's Church.
- The word of Knowledge can provide profound insights and guidance to our daily lives.
- Let's look at these and how they can be applied today
 - Supernatural Encouragement:
 - Situation/example: Just as Jesus encouraged Peter by providing a miraculous solution for his tax payment (Matthew 17:27), we can find encouragement by trusting God to provide solutions in seemingly impossible situations.
 - Application: In moments of stress or uncertainty, pray and seek God's guidance, believing that He can provide unexpected solutions and encouragement.
 - Confirmation of God's Will:

- Situation/example: Ananias received a vision confirming Paul's conversion and mission (Acts 9).
- Application: When facing major decisions, seek confirmation through prayer, scripture, and the counsel of spiritually mature believers. God can use these to affirm the direction He is leading you.
- Insight into Future Purposes:
 - Situation/example: Cornelius's vision led him to Peter, which opened the door for the Holy Spirit to come to the Gentiles (Acts 10).
 - Application: Trust that God can give insight into His plans for your life. This can come through prayer, reflection, and being sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading. We need to be able to hear the quiet voice and whisper in our busy lives. We need to be still and know He is God, to know what he plans for you.
- Counselling and Evangelism:
 - Situation/example: Words of knowledge can reveal specific needs or hidden issues, much like how Jesus interacted with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4).
 - Application: In conversations, especially in counselling or evangelistic contexts, pray for discernment and be open to the Holy Spirit revealing insights that can help others more effectively.
- Overcoming Hindrances to Healing and Unanswered Prayers:
 - Situation/example: Jesus often addressed the root cause of physical ailments and spiritual bondage (e.g., Mark 2:5-12).
 - Application: When praying for healing or breakthrough, ask God to reveal any underlying issues that need addressing, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. To help you pray in line with God's will
- Strategies in Spiritual Warfare:
 - Situation/example: David frequently inquired of the Lord for battle strategies (e.g., 1 Samuel 30:8). If he should go on and attack, and if he'd overtake his enemy.
 - Application: In spiritual battles, seek God's strategy through prayer and scripture, trusting that He can provide specific guidance to overcome obstacles.
- Revealing Hidden Sin:
 - Situation/example: Nathan confronted David with a word of knowledge about his sin with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 12).
 - Application: In situations where hidden sin is causing issues, pray for wisdom and boldness to address it lovingly and truthfully, aiming for restoration and healing.
- Opening Meetings for God's Movement:
 - Situation/example: Paul's teaching and the subsequent miraculous works often led to powerful movements of God (Acts 19:11-12).
 - Application: In gatherings, whether church meetings or small groups, invite the Holy Spirit to lead and be open to His movement, creating an environment where God can work powerfully.
- Daily Living:



- Situation/example: The early church demonstrated reliance on the Holy Spirit in daily decisions (Acts 13:2).
- Application: Stay connected to the Holy Spirit through regular prayer, scripture reading, and being attentive to His guidance in all aspects of life – work, home, community, and church.
- By integrating these principles into daily life, we as Christians can experience a deeper sense of God's presence, guidance, and power, making our faith dynamic and transformative.
- We can use the gifts of the Spirit of Revelation, of Wisdom and Knowledge to grow his church.

| The 3Thirds Discipleship Model | | |
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| Look back | Look up | Look forward |
| <p>1. Mutual care: How are you doing?</p> <p>2. Worship: Praising God in a simple, relevant way.</p> <p>3. Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Follow:</i> How did you obey the lesson from last time? ◦ <i>Fish:</i> Did you pray with anyone who was in need? ◦ Did you share your story and/or Jesus' story? ◦ Did you find a person of peace? <p>4. Casting vision for reaching lost people and making disciples.</p> | <p>5. New lesson: Enough Biblical content to obey and pass it on.</p> <p>Use the Discovery Bible Study Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Read the Bible Story b. Ask them to re-tell the story in their own words c. Ask four questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What does this story tell us about God? ii. What does this story tell us about people? iii. Is there a command to obey or an example to follow or a promise to live by? iv. How does this apply to my life? | <p>6. Practice the lesson until everyone is confident and competent to apply the learning. e.g. Retell your story, Jesus' story, or this week's story.</p> <p>7. Set goals</p> <p>Goals for personal growth, sharing the gospel, and training others.</p> <p>C.O.S.T. Connect Obey Share Teach</p> <p>8. Pray and Share Communion</p> |
| <p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p> | <p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p> | <p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p> |