

**WOMEN IN THE WORD
OF
FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH**

THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED
Exploring the Father's Promise to Believers

Scripture Reference Notes
Lesson TEN

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

March 28, 2023

As I have studied in preparation for our teaching each week, I have become acutely aware of the graciousness of our God. He provided a way of salvation (a way to spend eternity with Him) through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross as John 3:16 tells us. Then He has poured His very own Spirit into each of us to be with us forever to comfort us, guide us and show us how to live full lives in Christ. As if that were not enough, He gives us precious "fruit" to enrich our lives and overflow to others around us. Now we are going to learn about the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are given to each of us as believers by the will of the Spirit in order to build up the body of Christ here on earth and show the glory of God to those around us!

It is almost too much to take in! How awesome in our GOD. Thank you, Father for loving us so much that your grace to is immeasurable. Amen!

SPIRITUAL GIFTS are different from the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The fruit is our character traits manifested by the power of the Holy Spirit working in us. The gifts are our faculties, talents, and qualities that we use to serve others, the church and the Lord.

These gifts are distributed to believers by the Holy Spirit "just as He wills". (I Corinthians 12:11) Because the Holy Spirit knows us so well, He determines which of the gifts will be best suited for us and for the purpose of building up of the body of Christ as a whole.

These gifts are not for us to use how we want to. They have specific purposes for God's Kingdom. They are intended to glorify God by revealing more of who He is and displaying His sovereignty and power over all things.

Unlike a Christmas or birthday gift which are for our personal delight and pleasure, Spiritual gifts are given for service to others, not for ourselves.

From Pache/Emerson's book "The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit", they state, "It must first be stated that the Spirit is one and that all believers receive the same Spirit without distinction. But the Spirit who calls us to various fields of service, bestows the diversity of gifts."

Billy Graham in his book "The Holy Spirit" talks about word *charisma* which is used to describe "the various gifts God has given by the Holy Spirit to Christians". "in the biblical use of the word charisma, it means "a gift of holy grace".

Charles Ryrie in his book "The Holy Spirit" agrees with Graham. He says, "The Greek word for spiritual gift (charisma) is related to grace, for charis means "grace"; thus a spiritual gift is due to grace. The use of the word in the New Testament ranges from referring to the gift of salvation (Romans 6:23) to the gift of God's providential care (II Corinthians 1:11). But most frequently it is used of the special grace gifts or abilities given to men by the risen Lord and the Holy Spirit."

Grace means "unmerited favor". We received something we do not deserve. So once again we see God is pouring it out on us. 😊

Let's look at the Scriptures.

Romans 12:1-13--Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the

same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

I Corinthians 12---Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware. You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to the mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. 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. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the

body, just as He desired. If they were all one member, where would the body be? But now there are many members, but one body.

And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable, whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they? All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.

Paul likens the church to our physical bodies, where each member has a unique function. And all the parts work together for the benefit of the entire body.

Ephesians 4:7 & 11-16---There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

11-16---And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies,

according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

“Christ is the giver of gifts and the real gift is HIMSELF.” (Sanford)

In addition to Paul’s list of gifts in Romans, Corinthians and Ephesians, Peter mentions the gifts and he divides them into categories of speaking and serving.

I Peter 4:8-11---Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever.

Charles Stanley emphasizes in his book “The Wonderful Spirit filled Life” that the gifts of the Holy Spirit cause the body of Christ “to live *interdependently* with other believers.” I believe it is critical that we understand this principle. WE NEED EACH OTHER! I need you! This Bible study is a perfect example of how the body works together. There are so many parts to this gathering: the welcome team, the hospitality team, the worship team, the leadership team. Everyone doing their best using the gifts God has given them for service. I greatly appreciate everyone of you more than I often express. So, thank you!

Let’s look some of the definitions of these gifts:

1. Apostles—special messengers. “one who is sent forth”, commissioned ones, a missionary.
2. Prophets—those inspired to speak forth of the mind and counsel of God. A proclaimer of truth, an expounder, a public speaker.
3. Evangelist—an ambassador or minister of the gospel, a messenger, preacher, deliver/announcer of good news.
4. Pastor—elder, shepherd, overseer, bishop, tender of the flock of God.

5. Teacher—one who instructs, a trainer, a minister.
6. Exhortion—encourager, comforter, consoler.
7. Wisdom—having understanding, prudence, perception.
8. Discernment—judgments of reasoning, scrutinizing, judicial examination, discriminating, distinguishing of spirits.
9. Leadership—a guide, “holding by the hand”, pilot, steering, showing the way.
10. Administrator—manager, director, governor, allocating, supervisor, superintendent.
11. Service—to perform a role or function, helps, ministering to, assistance.
12. Mercy—show kindness, sympathy, compassion, benevolence, grace.
13. Giving—generosity with cheerfulness, benevolence.
14. Healing—care giver, attention giver, compassion, cures.
15. Faith—trust, steadfastness, solid, lacking anxiety, reliable, confidence.
16. Miracles—extraordinary occurrence, Godly actions, not of earthly origin.
17. Tongues—languages, dialects, speaking what is not usual to a person, not a learned speaking.

There are a lot of gifts. Some of us may have one, others may have many. One leader I spoke with believes that we can all develop each of these gifts if we desire to with the Lord’s help. This comes from the scripture in II Peter 1:3.... “seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.”

All the scriptures referencing the spiritual gifts emphasize they are given for specific reasons. Let's examine a few.

1. Unity of the body of Christ.
2. For the common good of all believers.
3. For works of service to the Kingdom of God.
4. To build up/encourage the body of Christ.
5. To maintain the unity of the faith.
6. To become mature in Christ.
7. It "causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love."
8. To bring glory to God.

ALL THIS IS DONE BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

In the following chart, we can see how each passage of scripture compares with the other passages as to which of the spiritual gifts is mentioned.

It is encouraging to see the consistency of scripture.

This is courtesy of Rose Publishing.

	Rom 12	1 Cor 12	Eph 4
Apostleship		X	X
Prophecy	X	X	X
Evangelism			X
Pastoring			X
Teaching	X	X	X
Exhortation	X		
Knowledge		X	
Wisdom		X	
Discerning of Spirits		X	
Leadership	X		
Administration		X	
Service/Helps	X	X	
Acts of Mercy	X		
Giving	X		
Healing		X	
Faith		X	
Miracles		X	
Speaking & Interpreting Tongues		X	

SO WHAT?

We are studying that each one of us is “gifted” by the Holy Spirit with qualities and talents that are to be used for others. What do I do about it?

Am I hiding a gift/talent “under a bushel”? Do I have something to offer/give to the body of Christ but I don’t want to use it or do I think I am inadequate, and don’t believe that I really have anything to contribute.

We cannot answer these questions for anyone else. I believe the Holy Spirit will let us know the answer to the question if we are brave enough to ask it and then response in obedience to His leading.

I have always felt that if God calls you to do something for Him, He will then equip you to do it! Even (or especially) when you feel you cannot do it. I think that may be what it’s all about.....not self-sufficiency but **GOD DEPENDANCY!**

If you already know your spiritual gift(s) and are using it for Him....Praise **GOD!** Keep it up!

There are some of us who will volunteer for anything and that is not the way. Some of us may try to “fit” into a slot that we are not meant to fill. And that is not the right approach either.

RYRIE says, “Gifts are discovered and developed by active service. If a person is active in doing what he or she can, then other doors of opportunity may open that may bring to light additional spiritual gifts.”

We are gifted for a purpose that God Himself has designed for us. Ephesians 2:10--For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

God already knows what we are supposed to be doing.....so just ask **HIM!** We all have a purpose and God always has the perfect plan. Jeremiah 29:11—“For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the **LORD.....**”

And all of this for HIS GLORY!

Our memory verse:

II Corinthians 13:14- “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.”

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

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LESSON 10

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit gives gifts with particular spiritual functions for the benefit of entire church of Jesus Christ.

Read the following passages:

Romans 12:4-8

I Corinthians 12:4-12

Ephesians 4:11-13

List the gifts of the Holy Spirit as spoken of in these verses.

Spend the rest of your study time on this lesson taking the “Spiritual Gifts Inventory” in the booklet in the back of your notebook.