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| Chapter 1

1.1 What are the gifts?

The Ultimate Gift

The Holy Spirit Himself

If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

Luke 11:13 ESV

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

John 16:7 ESV

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Acts 1:4–5 ESV

And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

Acts 2:38–39 ESV

Before we look at any of the gifts of the Spirit, we must first consider the gift of the Spirit himself. He is the ultimate gift from both Jesus and the Father. He is God himself living within us. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead; the same Spirit that hovered over the waters at creation. We are participators of the divine nature. God himself dwells in us!

In all our study of the gifts we must never lose sight of the giver. It is only through the indwelling of the Spirit that one is able to move in the gifts he gives. It is only

through intimacy with the person of the Spirit that one learns to recognise his voice and respond to his promptings.

Some may have fears or misgivings over the gifts themselves, but it is impossible to have fears or misgivings over the Spirit. He is God. Everything he does is good, and right and proper and productive. The Holy Spirit only does that which brings glory to Jesus, the risen Christ. Once we recognise him as the source, our fears and anxieties will cease.

Our journey into the spiritual gifts is really an ongoing walk of fellowship with the ultimate Gift himself: the Spirit of Christ who is within us. If you walk closely with a giver, gifts are inevitable!

Gifts of Grace

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Ephesians 4:7 ESV

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Charismata

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4 ESV

The word that the apostle Paul used in this verse for “gifts” is the Greek word *charismata*. It is the word from which we get the term “charismatic” which is used today to describe congregations where the gifts are active. However in the New Testament there was no notion of a charismatic section of the church, and a non-charismatic section. The Holy Spirit was and is a gift to all believers past, present and future, and it is he that distributes his gifts to each one who is willing to receive. There was an implicit expectation that every believer would move in the gifts of the Spirit. God’s church is by nature charismatic because of he who dwells within her!

Charismata literally means, “grace-gifts.” The word “gift” by itself already implies an element of grace, by the fact it is given, not earned. So a grace-gift adds an extra emphasis and importance to this aspect of the gifts of the Spirit. One of the most important things to understand about the gifts of the Spirit is that they are just that – *gifts!*

A gift is a gift!

The fact that the gifts of the Spirit are *gifts* and more specifically *gifts of grace*, tells us a lot about what they are, and what they are not.

They are not merited

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

James 1:17 ESV

The gifts of the Spirit do not tell you how spiritual a man is who moves in them. It does not tell you how godly their character has become, or how intimate they are with Jesus. In fact, 1 Corinthians 13:1-2 and Matthew 7:22-23 shows that it is possible for some to be dynamic in gift yet bankrupt in character. Jesus said it is by their fruit that you will know them (Mtt 7:20).

This is the difference between gift and fruit. The fruit tells you about the nature of the tree – good fruit indicates a good tree. The gift tells you about the giver, not the recipient. God gives us good gifts, not because we are good, but because *He is good*.

This means we can't take any credit for the operation of the gifts of the Spirit in our lives. On one hand, some may think it arrogant to claim to have a gift from God, but in a correct understanding it is truly humbling to realise that it is all from God and nothing from yourself.

It also means that we do not have to pass some spiritual test before we can move in the gifts. When we bring a prophecy or a tongue, an interpretation, a word of knowledge or any of the other gifts, we are not demonstrating what a good week we had. It does not announce that we haven't messed up. In fact it says nothing about us at all. The gifts do not reflect us, but they reflect the goodness, greatness and glory of the risen, ascended, glorified Christ who sends the Spirit. That is why they are so important!

They are not earned

While we can grow in confidence and faith in the gifts God gives us, we do not have to work our way up to a point where we can use them. We do not have to earn the right to move in a gift. God's gifts are given freely and can be used from the moment they are received.



And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.

Acts 19:6 ESV

Here were some men who up to this moment, had not even understood that there was a Holy Spirit! Yet when Paul laid his hands on them they spoke in tongues and prophesied *immediately!*

Consider how it is with natural gifts. If you get given a new TV, it may take you a while to work out all the clever things it can do, but you can start using it straight away. So it is with God's gifts; we are always learning, but we don't have to wait until we know it all before we step out, we can move in the gifts from the moment God gives them. Indeed, if we never use them we will never learn!

They are never recalled!

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Romans 11:29 ESV

Can you imagine your Dad coming round in January and demanding the presents he gave you at Christmas back? It's unthinkable isn't it? If you can ask for a gift back, or if you have the right to take it back, then it was never really a gift! If that is true of imperfect gifts given by imperfect people, how much more is it true of the perfect gifts given by the Spirit from our perfect heavenly Father?

Although the gifts require faith, and keep us humble, because they are entirely down to God not us, as we learn to move in the gifts we do develop a confidence because the gift we moved in one day will not be missing the next. Just as we learn to understand our strengths and weaknesses in the natural, so too we can learn the areas of spiritual ministry where God has graced us to move in.

Sometimes natural gifts are recalled because they are substandard or fail to meet some new quality guideline. But this can never be true of the good and perfect gifts that come from our heavenly Father. God will never have to recall his gifts from the church or from individuals because they are no longer up to the job, or because they pose a health risk!

Sadly, in some sections of the church that is what they believe has happened. Looking at the absence of the gifts in their own meetings and through much of church history, they would rather explain it away by a mass recall at the end of the first Century, than to cry out to God for them to be restored in their day and in their time!

One day the gifts will *cease*, but this will not be because God takes them back! It will be because they are no longer needed! Letters, emails and telephone calls are all important forms of communication with your friends; but when you spend time with your friends in person you no longer write them letters, send them emails or ring them up. Why? Not because you can't, nor because they are no longer important, but because you don't need to. One day, in glory, we will all see Jesus our Lord face to face. In that day, who will want to prophesy when we can all see, hear and touch Jesus for ourselves?

For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away... For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face.

1 Corinthians 13:9-10,12a ESV

1.2 Different Kinds of Gift

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.

1 Corinthians 12:4 NIV

The List of Charismata

- Prophecy (Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:10)
- Serving (Romans 12:7)
- Teaching (Romans 12:7)
- Exhorting (Romans 12:8)
- Contributing (Romans 12:8)
- Leading (Romans 12:8)
- Acts of mercy (Romans 12:8)
- Celibacy (1 Corinthians 7:7)
- Utterance of wisdom (1 Corinthians 12:8)
- Utterance of knowledge (1 Corinthians 12:8)
- Faith (1 Corinthians 12:9)
- Gifts of healing (1 Corinthians 12:9)
- The working of miracles (1 Corinthians 12:10)
- The ability to distinguish between spirits (1 Corinthians 12:10)
- Various kinds of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10)
- Interpretation of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10)
- Helping (1 Corinthians 12:28)
- Administrating (1 Corinthians 12:28)

This list shows that it is not just the obviously *spiritual* gifts like prophecy or working miracles that are grace-gifts of the Spirit, but some more “ordinary” activities as well such as teaching, contributing to the needs of others, and administration. God does not just want us to rely on the Spirit for the extraordinary but for the ordinary as well! As Christians everything we do should be done in cooperation with the Spirit. Being *in the Spirit* should be natural to us, whether anything overtly supernatural happens or not.

A Trinitarian Pattern

Since the gifts reflect God as the giver, it should not surprise us to discover something about God revealed even in the way the gifts are described:

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same **Spirit**; and there are varieties of service, but the same **Lord**; and there are varieties of

activities, but it is the same **God** who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the **utterance of wisdom**, and to another the **utterance of knowledge** according to the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healing** by the one Spirit, to another the **working of miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another **the ability to distinguish between spirits**, to another **various kinds of tongues**, to another **the interpretation of tongues**.

1 Corinthians 12:4-10 ESV

Here we see not only the Trinitarian nature of God himself: Spirit, Lord (Son) and God (Father). But the same pattern in the gifts themselves, for the nine gifts are a threefold three. God is united in the giving, the nature and the operation of the gifts. Although they are *gifts of the Spirit*, they are also equally gifts from the Father, from whom all good gifts come, and gifts from the glorified Christ who gives gifts to men, including the gift of the Spirit himself.

All the gifts involve *revelation, proclamation* and *demonstration* to a greater or lesser degree. That is *hearing from God, speaking it out* and *making the power of God known*. However the gifts can be broken down into threes by which of these three elements is most prevalent.

Gifts of Revelation

- Word of wisdom (e.g. Luke 20:21-26)
- Word of knowledge (e.g. John 1:48)
- Discernment of Spirits (e.g. Matthew 16:23)

These gifts are marked by what is revealed or discerned from God by the Spirit. God reveals a piece of information that does not come through any detective work or any other natural means but is revealed by the Spirit.

Gifts of Proclamation

- Prophecy (e.g. Matthew 16:18)
- Message in tongues (e.g. 1 Corinthians 14:27)
- Interpretation of tongues (e.g. 1 Corinthians 14:27)

These gifts all involve speaking out under the promptings of the Spirit. This does not mean that the Spirit takes control of our lips – the Spirit of prophets are subject to prophets! (1 Corinthians 14:32). But it does mean that the words come from our spirit rather than from our heads!

Gifts of Demonstration

- Gifts of healing (e.g. Acts 3:6)
- Working of miracles (e.g. Acts 19:11-12)

EQUIP: Gifts of the Spirit



- Faith (e.g. 2 Kings 6:15-17)

These gifts are visible demonstrations of the power of God. The sick being made well, the impossible being made possible – and being done! Faith also is seen, not just in the ultimate vindication of the person who believes despite all the odds stacked against them, but in that very confidence and peace that they have even in the midst of the storm.

1.3 What are they for?

Tools

Everything God does he does for a good reason. The gifts of the Spirit are not optional extras, a little charismatic spice to make the meetings a bit more interesting; they are absolutely vital for us if we are to fulfil the purpose and commission that Jesus gave us. Jesus said that the disciples shouldn't even think about starting that mission until they had received the promised Holy Spirit, and the gifts and power that he brings.

The gifts are the primary means of Christian ministry both in building up the body and reaching the world. They are tools to get the job done. It is said that a bad workman always blames his tools, but equally a good workman will tell you that the best way to get a job done is to have the right tool for the job. A good workman will always make sure he has the right tools with him.

Tools to build up the body

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:15-16 ESV

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:7 ESV

What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

1 Corinthians 14:26 ESV

So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.

1 Corinthians 14:12 ESV

Paul is clear on how the body of Christ is to build itself up to maturity and the full stature of Christ – it is as *each part* does its work. To this end he says that a manifestation of the Spirit has been given *to each*, and that when these gifts are used when we come together it serves to build the body up. This is why Paul sandwiches his great passage about love in the middle of the discourse on the gifts, because the primary place the gifts operate is within the Agape (covenant love) community of God’s people.

The gifts are not used out of compulsion because we feel we must do something. They are not used out of pride because we want to be seen to move in the supernatural. They are not used out of our own agenda and motives to put forward our own ideas. They are motivated by love – Agape love – God’s covenant love that does not envy, does not boast, and is not proud. It is the love that always seeks the best for the body for it is an expression of God’s own love. The Father demonstrated his love by his gift to the world.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16 ESV

All God’s other gifts flow out of that same love, and are meant to operate within an expression of that love. It is a love that is patient and kind. Those who bring their gift in the context of love to build up the body will not insist on their own way but will defer to another man’s gift.

Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged.

1 Corinthians 14:29–31 ESV

But just as love will not force itself forward when it is another’s turn, love will not keep quiet when it is time to speak. We need to grasp the responsibility we have. God has given to us a manifestation of the Spirit. We know that because he says that they are *given* to each. But my manifestation is not given to me for my benefit; it is given for the *common good*. It is given to me, but it really belongs to the body. If I do not bring my gift when the Spirit stirs me I am robbing the body of the blessing God intended to build it up! I am not being arrogant to think like this, I am despising the value of God’s gift if I don’t!

Tools to reach the world

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Acts 1:8 ESV

The blessings and kingdom order that God manifests in the church are a prophetic demonstration of God's intention for the whole world. God's pattern at Pentecost is still his strategy to bring about his great unchanging kingdom plan: The whole house is filled; every individual is touched; they all go out in power to reach people from every nation under heaven.

The gifts are birthed in the church, but they are not intended to stay confined to the church. What God did in the upper room on Pentecost spilled out into the streets. So too God intends that our witness in the world is not just based on wise and persuasive words but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power! (1 Corinthians 2:4)

But this is not an excuse not to move in the gifts when we come together as God's people. There is a wise saying that goes, "The light that shines the farthest is the one that is brightest at home." A light that cannot illuminate its lantern cannot expect to shine out into the darkness. It is as we grow in confidence moving in the gifts that God has given us in the "safe" setting of the church meetings that we will build our faith and confidence to be able to recognise the Spirit's promptings and act on them when we are out in the world.

Signs

And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Mark 16:17-18 ESV

While God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Hebrews 2:4 ESV

This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

John 3:2 ESV

And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did.

Acts 8:6 ESV

The gifts act as signs. Signs do a number of things: they are designed to grab people's attention, tell them what they are looking at, and direct them if they want to know more. God's signs do the very same thing: they indicate that something or someone is from God; they grab people's attention; they focus and direct that attention to Jesus.

Not many church meetings or congregations would consider not having a sign outside to indicate who they are, to get people's attention and to direct them where they need to go if they want to join in. Yet many neglect the most important signs – the ones that God has given! God himself gives us signs by the gifts of the Holy Spirit he has distributed to each according to his will. When we move in the gifts as God intends for his body they will work much better than the banner or billboard outside the building.

Those who are genuinely open to the Spirit will be drawn by the activity of the Spirit, and without being open to the Spirit, no one can be saved. We should not be coy about operating in the gifts when there are visitors present amongst us – that's one of the very reasons God gave us his gifts!

Manifestations

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:7 ESV

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Psalms 50:2 ESV

God dwells in the midst of his people. His glory is displayed *in, to* and *through* the church. This glorious presence was never intended to be just a theoretical theological concept, but a tangible reality. God desires not just to be present (He is present everywhere!) but to be *manifestly* present. He desires that there be concrete, tangible, evidence that he is really amongst us.

The gifts of the Spirit are also called *manifestations* of the Spirit. In other words they do just that! They take the invisible presence of the Holy Spirit amongst God's people and make it visible – manifest for all to see or hear. It is this



manifest presence that marks us out as the people of God; without it we are no different from anyone else!

And [Moses] said to [the LORD], “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”

Exodus 33:15–16 ESV

When we come together as God’s people, it is always God’s desire to display his presence in our midst. We should never be satisfied with anything less than the manifest presence of God in *every* meeting.

The Spirit loves it when we set time aside to listen to his voice and respond to his promptings; what he doesn’t like is when we try to put him back into a box afterwards so we can get on with the “serious business.” There is nothing more serious or important than the glory of God in our midst! Those who forgot this or took it for granted under the old covenant usually paid for their mistake with their lives! Thankfully in Christ we have been given ample grace to live and learn from our mistakes, but we should never take God’s manifest presence in our midst for granted, nor allow any idolatrous business to ever be considered more important.

1.4 How do they operate?

In the body

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Paul's discourse of the operation of the church as a body is a direct continuation of his discourse on Spiritual gifts. Just as God has given the natural body gifts of sight, hearing, smell and abilities to move, and touch and change things, so too he has distributed spiritual gifts to his spiritual body – the church. Sight comes by the action of the eye, but it is a gift of the body, and what good would that seeing do if there was not a brain to evaluate the significance of the things seen, nor arms or feet to respond in action to what was seen.

So it is in the body of Christ; gifts are entrusted to individual members, and each has an important function, but the gifts themselves belong to the body as a whole. None has the right to withhold his gift from the body nor to exclude the gift of another. Just as we need every member functioning in our natural bodies, and if even one part is dysfunctional the whole body suffers, so too to be the effective body that God has called us to be we need each and every member firing on all cylinders.

This is the context in which the gifts operate. Our gift operates in the context of the total gifting of the expression of the body of Christ to which we are joined.

First this means that if we are not truly joined and committed to a local expression of the body of Christ and submitted to our place in it under the authority of the elders there, we should not expect to move in any spiritual gift. How well does even the best eye function if it is severed from the body? It is significant that the Bible says that when the day of Pentecost came, they were *all* together in one place (Acts 2:1).

This means we have a God-imposed dependence on one another. No one person can ever represent the full manifold wisdom or glory of God; it is only together as the whole company of God's people, each functioning in the grace-gift that they have received, that we can do that.

It means that I don't just have a responsibility to move in my own gift but to do whatever I can to enable those around me to move in theirs too.

It means that I don't have to try to be like anyone else. God has assigned me my own unique part and function in his body, and has given me the grace-gift to go with it.

It means that I don't have the right to *not* move in the gift God has given me. It belongs to the body, and the whole body suffers if I hold back.

According to your Faith

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;

Romans 12:6 ESV

All the gifts of the Spirit require faith in order to operate. Many who wait until they are certain before they step out, never step out, because God will never remove the necessity of faith. Until we are prepared to take a step of faith (like Peter stepping out of the boat) we will never move in a spiritual gift.

But just as it takes faith to start to move in a gift, it also takes faith to grow in and develop in the gifts. This is not because the gift changes, it is because we do. A man may have the gift of prophecy, but he can still only use it according to the measure of his faith. As his faith increases so does his capacity to move in the grace-gifts God has given him.

God takes one such prophet on a journey into the realms of the Spirit in the forty-seventh chapter of Ezekiel. The prophet starts ankle-deep in the river of God's spirit. He then moves to being knee-deep, then waist-deep, finally he was out of his depth swimming in the river. Each stage took him to a place where he was more dependent on God and less dependent on himself. It was a walk of faith that took him to the place of being totally reliant and surrendered to God. The river hadn't changed, but his place in it had.

If we want to grow in the gift God has given us we need to be prepared to step out according to the measure of faith we have already got. God gives more to those who use faithfully what he has already given them. It may seem like small first steps, but without them we will never move on. There is no point wishing for God to give us five talents when the one talent that is under our nose is gathering dust! There is no point asking God to help us swim if we aren't prepared to get our feet wet!

At the same time we need to be prepared and expectant that God will stretch that measure of faith, taking us deeper than we are comfortable with. If we become comfortable then we no longer require faith, and it's time to cast out into deeper water!

In order and subject to your control

And the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

1 Corinthians 14:32-33 ESV

But all things should be done decently and in order.

1 Corinthians 14:40 ESV

One lesson that is important to learn in moving in the gifts of the Spirit is that just because you have a gift doesn't mean you have to use it! Paul had to face this issue with the Corinthians who thought just because God had given them the gift of tongues it meant that they should use it *all the time!* It may seem strange to stress this, especially when most don't need to hear this yet, they need to be encouraged to step out not to hold back. But it is an important point as together we progress onwards to maturity in the gifts. As more become aware of the grace-gift God has given them and the importance of using it, we will reach the point where it is no longer possible for everyone who has a gift that they could bring to have the opportunity to bring it. Indeed God sets the bar that when we come together *everyone* has something that they could bring. Clearly not all are going to be able to contribute publicly. This is where it is important that we perceive not just what the Spirit is saying, but the order in how the Spirit wants it to be said. The most important factor is not whether I get the chance to have my say, but what is needed for the body to move on from this point the way God intends.

1.5 How are they received?

Spontaneously

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God.

Acts 10:44-46 ESV

Since the gifts are gifts of grace and gifts of the Spirit, it is ultimately up to the Spirit himself how and when he gives his gifts. He can give them without any human intervention at all if he so wills. All he requires are those who are saved and open to what he has to give.

Laying on of hands

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands

2 Timothy 1:6 ESV

And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.

Acts 19:6 ESV

Although the gifts of the Spirit come from the Spirit it is clear from the Scriptures that they can be imparted by those who are already full of the Holy Spirit. It is Jesus not us who heals the sick, yet he has chosen to do it through our hands as we lay them on the sick in obedience to his word and in the authority of his name, in the same way he often chooses to impart a spiritual gift from the Holy Spirit, through the laying on of hands.

We see this not only in the New Testament, but also in the Old. In Numbers 11 the seventy chosen elders were enabled to prophesy because God took the Spirit *that was on Moses* and put it on them. God is not limited to working this way, on the day of Pentecost, and in Cornelius's house there was no laying on of hands involved, but it still remains the most common means of spiritual impartation.

Eagerly desire!

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.

1 Corinthians 14:1 NIV

To move in the spiritual gifts we must *eagerly* desire to do so. There is nothing passive about an eager desire. An eager desire does not say, “If it happens, it happens.” An eager desire does all that is within its power to *make it happen!* If you think of something that you have eagerly desired in the past, maybe it was a relationship, a job, a house or the latest must have gadget or accessory. Think how you were at that time. Didn’t it feature prominently in your thoughts and your decisions? That’s how God wants us to be with the gifts. We are never just going to arrive at the things of the Spirit by accident; they are only found by those who actively seek them. We must awaken a *zeal* and *passion* for the manifest presence of God in our midst and our place in making it happen. We must find a *determination* to settle for nothing less, that will pursue God until it gets an answer. That will say like Jacob: “*I will not let you go unless you bless me.*”
