

Spiritual Gifts Workshop: Session 2 – February 29, 2025

One of the greatest hindrances to receiving the gifts is not taking the time to receive from Him.

If you don't carry out your gifting in the body, someone else has to cover it for you.

Last week - Tongues, Interpretation of tongues and prophecy—The utterance gifts In review—these are for the upbuilding, comfort and encouragement of the body of Christ when spoken in a public setting. Prayer tongue as spoken by Paul is used in your personal prayer life—praying with your mind and with your spirit.

Do you know the power of your testimony is more powerful than any sermon? In the end times, Rev 12:11 And they overcame him, (the devil) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

I consider my prayer language private and my personal communication to God when my mind doesn't know what to say. When to use your private prayer language. when you are walking, alone in your quiet time, driving, when you are so troubled words can't express.

I discourage prayer ministers up front from using tongues when praying for someone or ministering unless you are certain God tells you otherwise. You can mouth it but no voice. It can be a distraction and can result in confusion, being uncomfortableness to the one receiving prayer. Synonymous to the public tongue without interpretation.

Let's keep in mind as the body of Christ:

1. Love is the motivation for all spiritual gifts. No love, don't use the gifts. The gifts are a very practical way to show God's love to each person, in and out of the body.
2. A gift is unearned and undeserved. Not based on what you've done or how good you are, it is a gift from your heavenly Father. He won't take it back. But you have to receive it. We are quick to receive the negative, but reluctant to receive something positive especially when we feel it is undeserved. That is pride. In humility receive the gift.
3. Always weigh who is receiving the glory. You or God. Make it clear. Silence is not making it clear. Give God or Jesus mention
4. God delights in everyone in the body to function as part of the body. Don't resent when only one or two people are used all the time. Most of the time this is because others aren't open to being used and God is going to get His message out whether or not you are going to be available. Here I am Lord, use or send me. Is. 6:8

One more thing: don't get hung up on how to classify the gift you have used or about to use. Just use the gifts and give God the glory.

When we come together, we must be in the present and His Presence. In other words, you may be learning some great things in your walk with God over the past few weeks, but when we

gather, it is not about you and what God is doing in you. It is about what God is doing in the **present**. It is all about Him and His agenda for the **moment**. Sometimes we miss what God wants to do because we are too busy sharing out of our neediness. Home groups and your friendships are a good venue to share what God is doing in you.

That being said, any quick questions and comments over what we discussed last week. If not, we are going to move forward.

Interesting to note, Jesus did not reference tongues or the prophetic gift until the Holy Spirit was Introduced in Acts. Jesus referenced the prophecies from the prophets of the Old Testament, which is different than the application of prophecy Paul references to be used in the church for building up, comforting and encouragement (1 Cor 14:1-5)

We see the next six gifts were manifested actively throughout Jesus's ministry.

PLEASE NOTE: you will never hear the Holy Spirit with a prompting of one of these gifts if you are too busy or you are always looking at your phone—a subtle distraction of the evil one. Be looking around and always available with your spiritual ears open. 'Here I am Lord.'

The gifts are for the here and now, the present situation. If you miss a present situation, you can miss the timing.

REVELATORY OR INSTRUCTIONAL GIFTS.

1. Word of Knowledge
2. Word of Wisdom
3. Gift of Discernment

Introduction: called revelatory gifts because they function only by revelation from the Holy Spirit.

WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE

What is it NOT: It is not based on human knowledge or your experience. It is not an increased understanding.

What it is:

It is the God-given ability to have a revelation of facts or knowledge concerning something about which would be humanly impossible for you to know anything at all.

Examples of Word of Knowledge: Evident in both Old and New Testament

Joseph's ability to interpret the dreams of Pharaoh's butler and baker Genesis 40:9-22, 41:25-32
Daniel interpreting a dream for the king as well as telling him what the king dreamt. Daniel 2:26-45.

Jesus when he indicated that Lazarus's sickness was not unto death, but for the glory of God. John 11:1-4.

Jesus with the Samaritan woman at the well. John 4:5-18

Jesus knowing their thoughts. Matt. 12:24-25

Paul, going up to the city by revelation. Gal 2:1-2

Paul in telling the facts about Ananias and Sapphira. How could he have known they had agreed together to sell their piece of land and the whole amount was not considered? How did he know they would die for their lying to the Spirit of God? Acts 5:1-10

Words of Knowledge concerning moral and spiritual problems in the lives of our brothers and sisters are not given to us so that we might exploit or have power over them, but to rather to edify, encourage, build faith and restore those who have fallen. I love what Galatians 6:1-2 says, **Even if a man should be detected in some sin, my brothers, the spiritual ones among you should quietly set him back on the right path, not with any feeling of superiority but being yourselves on guard against temptation. Carry each other's burdens and so live out the law of Christ.**

SO A WARNING: Be very discreet about what you share when God has given you a word of knowledge about someone. I don't need to tell you what God thinks of gossiping and backbiting

EXAMPLES:

1. Use in church. Looking out over the crowd
2. Use in public. e.g. standing in a grocery line. At gym. (struggling with a sin, depression, anger, an addiction.)

Always be available for God to use you. Don't be in a hurry or be too busy, you can't hear from the Lord. When you sense the Holy Spirit, ask- what is it Lord? LISTEN

Lord, what do you want me to do with the word of knowledge?

1. Keep it quiet. Sometimes keep it to yourself and pray about it.
2. Share it. Be very careful who you share it with. The Lord doesn't want you to brag about what you did or violate boundaries of another person. Don't gossip.
3. Wait for the right time.
4. Timing can also be very important- you may have only one opportunity. Gal 6:10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

WORD OF WISDOM

What it is NOT: It does not involve any level of human wisdom. It has nothing to do with becoming wise, discreet, shrewd in understanding or judgment. The simple-minded can be used in the word of wisdom.

What it is:

Most often word of wisdom accompanies the word of knowledge in that it is how to apply the knowledge. Why? Because it involves revelation of what to do about a situation once you do know the facts concerning the situation.

Examples of the words of wisdom:

Joseph was also able to tell the Pharaoh what to do about the knowledge he was given. Gen 41:33-36

Daniel the king what to do to avoid the sure judgment which was coming his way. Daniel 4:27
Joshua Deut. 34:9

Moses in appointing a successor, Joshua Numbers 27:18-23

Solomon - God was pleased with Solomon's request for knowledge and wisdom 2 Chr 1:7-12*

Solomon- on how he discerned who was the true mother 1 Kings 3:16-28*

Jesus, when He told those going to stone the harlot, to 'cast the first stone'.

- Two kinds of wisdom in the spiritual world. James 3:14-18
 1. The wisdom from beneath causes confusion and every evil work.
 2. The wisdom from above is pure, peaceable, gentle, full of mercy, good fruits. It is without partiality and hypocrisy. Never produces confusion 1 Cor 14:33

GIFT OF DISCERNMENT OF SPIRITS

What it is NOT: not the ability to discern by human judgment or insight. It is not the act on the part of the believer to cast out demons. It may be used to discern a spirit, but not the casting out of demons. The casting out of demons as a part of the ministry in every believer and tends to fall under miracles, which we will discuss in the miracle section. Mark 16:17

What it is: It is the God-given ability to detect the presence and ascertain the identity of spirits and spirits ONLY. The spirit world consists of God's Spirit, the spirit of angels, both light and dark, and the spirit of men. Paul says only the spirit of man knows the things of a man. 1 Cor 2:11. Recognizing the voice of the enemy v. the Holy Spirit. The ability to differentiate between different spirits and their influence upon a person.

Examples:

Jesus discerning a spirit of infirmity Luke 13:11-13

Jesus cured many of unclean spirits. To do this, He had to detect their presence and ascertain their identity.

Paul when dealing with the sorcerer Acts 13:6-11

Paul when delivering girl possessed by a spirit of divination Acts 16:16-18

Timothy 1 Tim 4:1-3

Multitudes of evil spirits whose names are mentioned in Scripture,

Spirit of antichrist 1 Jn 4:3, spirit of bondage, Rom 8:15, spirit of truth and spirit of error 1 Jn 4:6,

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Not everything is related to a demon. On the other hand, one can't dismiss that a demon may not be involved. One third of the angels were cast down. It represents a whole lot of demons that roam the earth.

PERSONAL EXAMPLE OF DEMON CAST OUT DURING COUNSELING.

REMEMBER ALL GIFTS ARE TO BE USED FOR THE BUILDING UP OF THE CHURCH AND FOR THE GLORY OF GOD. NOTE: WORDS OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE DO NOT CHANGE THE COURSE OF THE EVENTS GOD HAS ORDAINED. IT MERELY GIVES US HUMANS INSIGHT INTO WHAT GOD IS SEEING, DOING AND/OR DESIRING. GOD'S WILLINGNESS FOR US TO SHARE IN HIS WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE IS TO BE SHARED (AS DIRECTED BY GOD) FOR HIS GLORY AND A DEEPENING OF OUR FAITH IN HIM.

LET'S DON'T GET CAUGHT UP WITH WHETHER IT IS A WORD OF KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM, DISCERNMENT OF SPIRITS----- JUST ACT WITH YOUR INNER INSTINCT OF WHAT GOD IS TELLING YOU TO DO AND BE OBEDIENT.