

Acts 17:6 – ... These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also

### What is a Normal Christian?

- An “Average Christian” is a Christian who falls somewhere between the extremes, not too hot and not too cold, lukewarm
- A “Normal Christian” is a Christian who conforms to the Norm or Standard of a Christian... which would be Jesus
- John 14:12 – ... whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.
- 1 John 2:6 – Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.
  - ESV = .... ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

### Gifts of the Spirit

- Ephesians 3:20 – Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 – 4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. 7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.
- Four Descriptive Words
  - “Gift” = *charisma* = grace, favor, gift
    - In Greek culture, when someone freely did something good to you, it was called, essentially, giving you a charisma...
      - Whenever this word is used in reference to the Holy Spirit, it means a miraculous ability to do something beyond your natural capabilities
    - These gifts are a way for God to bless us, to do good to us
  - “Service” = *diakoniōn* = to wait on tables (as a waiter or waitress), to serve...
    - Where we get the word “Deacon” from
    - Root words meaning “thoroughly dusty”... because those who serve get their hands dirty
    - These gifts are meant to serve others, not to make us famous or wealthy
  - “Working” = *energēma* = lit. an effect... where our word “energy” comes from
    - These Gifts are the effect of God’s energy working in and through us
  - “Manifestation” = *phanerosis* = from the Greek word for “light”... to bring to light
    - These Gifts are meant to bring God to light, to reveal the Holy Spirit... to point to Jesus
- Three Categories
  - 1) Revelatory Gifts: Gifts where God reveals something to you
    - Word of Knowledge, Word of Wisdom, Discerning of Spirits
  - 2) Vocal Gifts: Gifts that require you to speak
    - Prophecy, Tongues, Interpretation
  - 3) Power Gifts: Gifts that demonstrate God’s supernatural power
    - Faith, Healing, Miracles

### Revelatory Gifts

- Word of Wisdom – Greek sophia = Godly wisdom
  - When the Holy Spirit supernaturally puts wisdom in your heart to deal with a difficult situation
  - Bible Example: King Solomon (1 Kings 3)
  - Bible Example: Jesus with the Sadducees (Luke 20)
  - Story: Medellin Prison in Colombia
- Word of Knowledge - Greek gnosis = information, knowledge...
  - When the Holy Spirit supernaturally reveals a bit of information to you that you didn't know beforehand
  - Bible Example: Jesus with the Woman at the Well (John 4)
  - Story: Heidi Baker's Mechanic
- Discerning of Spirits
  - This is when the Holy Spirit supernaturally reveals to you what spirits are at work, whether it's the Holy Spirit, or an angel, or a demon, or a human spirit... what kind of demon it is, etc.
  - Bible Example: Paul in Philippi (Acts 16)