

## Twelve Ways God Speaks: #1) Creation

## Twelve Ways God Speaks: #2) Wisdom

## Twelve Ways God Speaks: #3) Your Conscience

## Twelve Ways God Speaks: #4) Other People

## Twelve Ways God Speaks: #5) The Word of God

## Twelve Ways God Speaks: #6) The Inner Voice of the Holy Spirit

## Twelve Ways God Speaks: #7) The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- 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...
    - These gifts are God's way of freely doing good to us, blessing us, ministering to us
  - “Service” = *diakoniōn* = to serve... to wait on tables (as a waiter or waitress)...
    - 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” = *phanerōsis* = 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 Wisdom, Word of Knowledge, 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
- An Overview of the Gifts
  - Revelatory Gifts
    - Word of Wisdom
      - When the Holy Spirit supernaturally puts wisdom in your heart to deal with a difficult situation
      - Bible Example: King Solomon (1 Kings 3)

- Word of Knowledge
      - When the Holy Spirit supernaturally reveals a bit of information to you that you couldn't know on your own
      - Bible Example: Jesus with the Woman at the Well (John 4)
    - Discerning of Spirits
      - When the Holy Spirit supernaturally reveals to you what spirits are at work, whether it's the Holy Spirit, an angel, a demon...
      - Bible Example: Paul in Philippi (Acts 16)
  - Vocal Gifts
    - Prophecy
      - When the Holy Spirit gives you a message from God... and you speak it out
      - Bible Example: Agabus (Acts 11, 21)
    - Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues
      - When you speak in tongues, you're allowing the Holy Spirit to speak through you in a language you don't know, but He knows
      - When you're interpreting a message in tongues, the Holy Spirit reveals to your spirit what was said, even though you don't know the language they were speaking
  - Power Gifts
    - Faith
      - When God puts a unique boost of supernatural faith in your heart to believe for what is impossible in the natural
      - Bible Example: Abraham with Isaac (Hebrews 11:19)
    - Healing
      - When God supernaturally heals you
    - Miracles
      - When the Holy Spirit performs a supernatural miracle, something unexplainable outside of God
- 1 Corinthians 14:1-3 – 1 Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. 2 For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. 3 On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.
  - Upbuilding
    - “upbuilding” = Greek word that was used to mean “remodeling a broken home” or “building a house on empty land”
  - Encouragement
    - “encourage” = English word is from the French... which literally meant “to make courageous”
    - “encouragement” = *paraklesis* (Greek) = related to one of the names for the Holy Spirit (*parakletos* = comforter, advocate)
  - Consolation
    - Prophecy isn't meant to hurt or condemn you... but to console you, to let you know that God loves you and it's gonna be OK.
  - In other words... Prophecy is to build you up, to stir you up, and to cheer you up
- 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 – 20 Do not despise prophecies, 21 but test everything; hold fast what is good.
  - Prophecy is messy...
    - When you hear from God, you've got to hear it right, interpret it right, and then speak it right
    - And you as the hearer have to hear it right, understand it right, and apply it right
  - 1) Don't despise it
  - 2) Test it

- Ask if it conforms with the word of God
- Ask if it conforms with what God has spoken to you
- 3) Hold fast what is good
- Quote: Craig Keener – “A clean plate is less messy than a dirty one... but I still like to eat.”