

## Empowered Pt. II, Week 4 - July 19, 2026

### Sticks & Stones - Acts 9:20-30, 11:22-26

- Our words hold the power of life and death

#### Exhortation

- Exhortation is often replaced in modern translations with encouragement
- Definition: "The gift of exhortation is the capacity to urge people to action in terms of applying Biblical truths, to encourage people generally with Biblical truths, or to comfort people through the application of Biblical truth to their needs." *Robert Clinton*
- 3 aspects that make up exhortation
  - Encouraging
  - Comforting
  - Correcting
- Exhortation is in the word category of gifts
  - Word Gifts clarify the nature, action, and purposes of God
- Some Indicators
  - You often feel like you have a word from God for someone in need
  - People feel encouraged or cheered up around you
  - You have an ability to bring Biblical counsel to people that feels loving

- You often feel lonely or wonder who is supposed to encourage you

#### Words of Wisdom or Knowledge

- Actually a pair of gifts (1 Corinthians 12:8)
- A person who, more often than the normal Christian, receives a word from God about a specific person or a specific situation
  - Similar to prophecy, but words or wisdom or knowledge are more often for an individual
- Definition: "The Words of Wisdom gift is the ability to apply God's truth to specific, real-life situations, offering insight and guidance that is timely, practical, and aligned with God's will."
- Definition: "The Words of Knowledge gift is the ability to receive specific information or insight that could not be known naturally, often revealing hidden things so God can bring direction, understanding, or healing."
- Some Indicators
  - You have a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's promptings
  - You have received information about another person which could not come from you
  - You are willing to risk sharing what you received, trusting God wants to use it