



Equipped & Empowered Seminar Pt. 2

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The 9 Gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:7–11)

Introduction:

The gifts of the Spirit are manifestations of the Holy Spirit's power, not natural talents. They are tools given to every believer to build up the Body of Christ and demonstrate the supernatural ministry of Jesus through His Church.

Key Verse:

"Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good." – 1 Corinthians 12:7 (NIV)

Revelation Gifts – Gifts That Reveal Something

Definitions:

- **Word of Wisdom:** Supernatural insight for solving a problem or making a godly decision. Acts 15:13–20 (James at the Jerusalem Council)
- **Word of Knowledge:** God reveals facts about a person, situation, or event not known naturally. John 4:17–18 (Jesus and the Samaritan woman)
- **Discerning of Spirits** The ability to see or sense what type of spirit is operating—Holy, human, or demonic. Acts 16:16–18 (Paul discerns a spirit of divination)

Vocal Gifts – Gifts That Say Something

Definitions:

- **Prophecy:** Speaking forth God's heart to strengthen, encourage, and comfort others. 1 Corinthians 14:3
- **Different Kinds of Tongues:** Speaking in a language unknown to the speaker—used in public or private worship. Acts 2:4–11 (Pentecost)

- Interpretation of Tongues: Spirit-given understanding of a message in tongues, bringing clarity and order. 1 Corinthians 14:27–28

Power Gifts – Gifts That Do Something

Definitions:

- Gift of Faith: A supernatural ability to believe God in impossible situations. Daniel 6 (Daniel in the lion's den)
- Working of Miracles: God works through a person to perform acts that defy natural laws. Acts 19:11–12 (Extraordinary miracles through Paul)
- Gifts of Healings: Specific enablements to bring healing to physical, emotional, or spiritual sickness. Acts 5:16 (People healed through the apostles)

Reflection Questions:

1. Which gift(s) are you most drawn to?
2. Have you experienced or witnessed any of these gifts in operation?

The Purpose of the Gifts in the Body of Christ

I. The Gifts Are for the Profit of All

“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” – 1 Corinthians 12:7

- They are not to elevate the individual but to edify the whole church.

II. Gifts Serve These Core Purposes:

1. To Build Up the Church (Edification)

“Let all things be done for edification.” – 1 Corinthians 14:26

- Prophecy, teaching, and tongues (with interpretation) strengthen and encourage.

2. To Glorify Jesus

“He will glorify Me...” – John 16:14

- The gifts highlight Jesus—not the person being used.

3. To Demonstrate the Kingdom of God

“The Kingdom... is not in word, but in power.” – 1 Corinthians 4:20

- Miracles, healings, and deliverance manifest God’s authority over darkness.

4. To Equip the Saints for Ministry

“The manifestation... given to each one...” – 1 Cor. 12:7

- All believers can be used—no one is left out.

5. To Advance the Gospel with Power

“God also bearing witness with signs and wonders...” – Hebrews 2:4

- The gifts confirm the Word and draw unbelievers to Christ.

III. The Church Functions Like a Body

- Each member has a unique role and spiritual function (1 Corinthians 12:12–27)
- Gifts are diverse but work in harmony for God’s glory and people’s good



Discussion/Group Activity:

- Identify ways the gifts have built up your local church.
- Discuss how unity and order must accompany spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 14:33, 40).

How to Stir Up and Operate in the Gifts of the Spirit

I. Stirring Up the Gifts

1. Desire the Gifts

“Earnestly desire spiritual gifts...” – 1 Corinthians 14:1

- Hunger opens the door to supernatural activity.

2. Ask in Faith

“You do not have because you do not ask.” – James 4:2

- Pray boldly and expectantly to be used.

3. Fan into Flame the Gift

“Stir up the gift... through the laying on of my hands.” – 2 Timothy 1:6

- Rekindle what God has placed within you through worship, prayer, and obedience.

4. Be Filled Continually with the Spirit

“Be filled with the Spirit...” – Ephesians 5:18

- The more you’re filled, the more you’ll overflow with power.

II. Operating in the Gifts

1. Step Out in Faith

- The gifts function as we obey promptings.
- Example: Prophecy begins with a thought or phrase—speak it in faith.

2. Practice in Safe Spaces

- Use small groups, prayer teams, or mentorship contexts to grow.

3. Stay Anchored in the Word

- God's Spirit never contradicts God's Word.

4. Walk in Love

"If I have gifts... but have not love, I am nothing." – 1 Corinthians 13:2

- Love is the motive; gifts are the method.

5. Submit to Godly Leadership and Accountability

- Gifts are to function within order and under shepherding care.

III. Key Attitudes for Operating in the Gifts:

- Humility – Recognize the gift is God's, not yours.
- Obedience – Say yes quickly to the Spirit's leading.
- Boldness – Faith activates the supernatural.
- Sensitivity – Stay tuned to the Spirit's voice and timing.

Personal Application:

- What step can you take this week to stir up a spiritual gift?
- Who can you encourage or minister to using a gift of the Spirit?