



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12, 7-11

Different lists of gifts in the Bible

God has given us different gifts or abilities. These gifts are listed in four different places in the New Testament.

- ◆ Ephesians 4,11: Lists the various ministers Jesus gave to the Church.
- ◆ Romans 12,3-8: Different abilities individuals have to serve in the body of Christ.
- ◆ 1 Corinthians 12,27: Gifts given to operate in the church.
- ◆ 1 Corinthians 12,7-11: Gifts of the Spirit.

The Gifts of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12, 7-11

- ◆ The Word of Wisdom
- ◆ The Word of Knowledge
- ◆ Faith
- ◆ Gifts of Healing
- ◆ The working of Miracles
- ◆ Prophecy
- ◆ Discerning of Spirits
- ◆ Different kinds of Tongues
- ◆ The Interpretation of Tongues

What are the Gifts of the Spirit?

- ◆ The supernatural interaction/intervention of God with our natural world
- ◆ The Holy Spirit working through a person acting in faith
- ◆ Involving three general areas: Miracles, revelation, prophecy (including tongues and interpretation)
- ◆ Given on a temporary basis
- ◆ For the glory of God!

Definition of each Gift

- ◆ The Word of Wisdom: The supernatural wisdom on how to act/speak in a situation.
- ◆ The Word of Knowledge: Having something revealed to you by the Spirit of God that is otherwise hidden or unknown.
- ◆ Faith: The supernatural ability to believe God for the impossible.
- ◆ Gifts of Healing: Supernatural faith for healing.
- ◆ The Working of Miracles: The supernatural ability to believe God for something contrary to the laws of nature.

Definitions of each Gift (cont'd)

- ◆ Prophecy: Speaking the Word of the Lord either about a current situation or the future.
- ◆ Discerning of Spirits: The supernatural ability to recognize an evil spirit that is operating through someone's life.
- ◆ Different kinds of Tongues: Giving a prophetic utterance, only through an unknown language.
- ◆ The Interpretation of Tongues: Giving the meaning of the utterance in tongues in the language of the hearer- without knowing the language.

Examples of the Gifts of the Spirit

The following are examples in the Bible of the gifts of the Spirit in action.

- ◆ Acts 5,15: People were healed as Peter's shadow passed over them. This is the gifts of miracles/healing in action.
- ◆ Acts 13,2: The Holy Spirit spoke through a person concerning Barnabas & Saul's ministry. This was a prophecy.
- ◆ Acts 5,3: The Holy Spirit showed Peter through a word of knowledge that Ananias had lied.

Are the Gifts of the Spirit valid for the 21st Century?!

Many people believe and teach that the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit are not valid today. They believe that these gifts ended when the last apostle died. The following Scripture show us that they are for today.

1 Corinthians 1,7: Says that “you (the Corinthians) are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. “

◆ The Greek Word for “gift” is “charismati,” where we get our word Charismatic. It is used to describe the gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12.

◆ The Greek Word for “revealing” is “apokalypsis.” This is a special word relating to the 2nd coming of Jesus.

Hence, Scripture clearly shows that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are valid for the 21st century.

More Proof

Acts 2, 1-4 is the account of how the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost upon 120 disciples. As they receive the Holy Spirit, they all began to speak in new language, also known as “tongues.”

A large crowd gathered, and Peter began preaching to them, exhorting them to be saved. He then started talking about the Holy Spirit. He told them that if they were to be saved, they would also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, saying “this promise is to you,

your children

and all who are far off,

everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself.”

Acts 2,38-39





How to Receive the Gifts

How to receive the Gifts?!

Scripture gives two specific ways people receive the gifts of the Spirit. One is of course, through prayer. The second is they are imparted to us through the laying on of hands.

1 Corinthians 14,1 says that Christians should
“earnestly desire” spiritual gifts.

◆ The word “desire” in the Greek denotes a very strong longing for something. To illustrate, when it is used in the negative sense, it is translated as “lust.”

◆ The Holy Spirit gives His gifts to those who earnestly seek Him for them. Hebrews 11,6 says that God rewards those who diligently seek Him.

If you want to be used by God with the gifts of the Spirit, earnestly seek Him for them!

How to receive the Gifts?! (cont'd)

The second way of being able to be used with the gifts of the Spirit is through the laying on of the hands.

Consider the following Scriptures.

- ◆ Deuteronomy 34,9: And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands
- ◆ 2 Timothy 1,6: For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on
- ◆ Acts 19,6: And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying..
- ◆ You can receive the gifts of the Spirit when a godly person who is filled with the Spirit, lays hands on you and prays for you to receive them!

The Purpose of the Gifts

There are two main purposes of the
Gifts of the Spirit:

◆ To bless the Body
of Christ

◆ To Reach the Lost

The purpose of the Gifts (cont'd)

It is important to know that the gifts of the Spirit are not intended to be a blessing for the person who has the gift. (Naturally that person will be blessed). However, they are given to an individual so that he or she can minister with these gifts to someone who has a need.

Consider what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 12,7: "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."



The purpose of the Gifts (cont'd)



For instance in explaining about prophecy in 1 Corinthians 14,3, Paul said that this gift is for the body: edification, exhortation (encouragement) and comfort.

The purpose of the Gifts (cont'd)

The Gifts are also an important tool to reach the Lost. Consider these Scriptures.

- ◆ Hebrews 2,3-4: how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.
- ◆ Acts 14,3: So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands..
- ◆ Romans 15,18-19: For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience--by word and deed, by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God--so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;
- ◆ Mark 16:20: And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

What about tongues?

“Tongues” is speaking out in an unknown language as enabled by the Holy Spirit. There are two purposes for tongues in the Bible.

1) Gift for the individual Believer	2) Gift for the entire Body
Accompanies the Baptism of the Holy Spirit	One of the gifts of the Spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12
Is a person's private prayer language to God	Is for others to hear
Builds up a person individually (Jude 20; 1 Corinthians 14,4)	Builds up the body of believers (1 Corinthians 14,4)
Example: Acts 10,46-48; Acts 2,4	Should not be used without the gift of interpretation

Conclusion

- 1) The Holy Spirit has His supernatural gifts available for you.
- 2) These gifts are intended to be used by you to bless His people and to help you reach the Lost.
- 3) These are *gifts*! Desire them. Pray for them. Seek God for them!

James 1,17: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Luke 11,13: How much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!

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