

Much More!

“The Power and Gifts of the Holy Spirit”

Introduction

Brandon

DISMISS CHILDREN, WELCOME LIVESTREAM, DISTRIBUTE LIST OF GIFTS (hold on to them, we will get to them soon).

The English word “gifts” is the Greek word “charisma.” A gift of the Spirit is a divine ability or a miraculous faculty.

There are two main lists of the gifts of the Spirit in the epistles of Paul.

Romans 12:6-8

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;

7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;

8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

NKJV

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:

2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led.

3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.

6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,

10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

NKJV

We have called these spiritual gifts “superpowers.”

Jerry

What are these superpowers?

Paul said he did not want the church at Corinth to be ignorant. The church at Corinth was a dichotomy.

On one hand, the Holy Spirit was exhibiting His power in a variety of miraculous ways in the church. Corinth was a center of idol worship, and the Holy Spirit was using His power to show that those idols were mute and powerless.

On the other hand, the church was being torn apart by division. Some of that division was centered around the exercise of the gifts of the Spirit. Some members were treating other members with contempt who did not exercise those gifts that they esteemed. Others were causing disorder in their gatherings by how they were exercising the gifts of the Spirit. Some were speaking in tongues with no one to interpret. Others were being rude and interrupting one another. The whole thing was bizarre.

These problems are not a problem for our local church. I am not aware of any contempt for others based on the gifts of the Spirit. Also, our gatherings are very orderly. We are growing a culture of love.

Brandon

We are studying the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit to understand how the Holy Spirit exhibits His power and gifts in a local church so that each one of us can learn how the Holy Spirit works and how He wants us to cooperate with Him.

This subject is very controversial. Paul gave us these [lists](#), but he did not give us any definitions or illustrations. Apparently, the church at Corinth did not need them.

So, we must discern what Paul meant by studying the meaning of Bible words and our knowledge of the stories in the Bible. After all, the best commentary of the Bible is the Bible!

This morning we are going to focus on the [list in 1 Corinthians 12:1-11](#). Paul put nine gifts on this list.

Body

Jerry

Paul called this list of gifts activities in verse 6.

6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

This English word activities comes from the Greek word energema from which we get our word energy. The exercise of the gifts of the Holy Spirit produces the energy of God in the body of Christ.

Brandon

Paul also called these gifts manifestations of the Spirit in verse 7.

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

This English word “manifestations” comes from the Greek word “phanerosis.” This word means an exhibition. It is derived from a word that means “to make apparent.”

These gifts of the Holy Spirit make it apparent that Jesus is Lord. The Holy Spirit uses these gifts to put on an exhibition that glorifies Jesus. Through spiritual gifts, He puts His power on display. He does these incredible supernatural works that are not explainable by natural or scientific laws. When others see them, they are prompted to faith.

Jerry

Let's consider the gifts Paul listed in 1 Corinthians 12. As we go through them, we will define each gift, give you several examples of it from stories in the Bible, and share with you some other examples.

1. Word of wisdom

Wisdom is seeing how you should live your life from God's perspective. There are moral laws in the Bible. There is even wisdom literature in the scripture (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, and James). Not all wisdom is explicitly a manifestation of the giftings of the Holy Spirit.

There is a type of wisdom that is explicitly a manifestation gift of the Holy Spirit. A "word of wisdom" is a solution to a problem from the Holy Spirit that is not found in the scripture.

- Solomon received a word of wisdom to identify the biological mother in a dispute between two women who both claimed the child. (1 Kings 3:16-28)**
- Daniel received a word of wisdom that provided a plan that would honor His convictions and the desires of his Babylonian captives. (Daniel 1:5-16)**
- Jesus received a word of wisdom that caused Peter, Andrew, James, and John to catch an amazing number of fish. (Luke 5:1-7)**
- Jesus received a word of wisdom that caused more than 5000 people to be fed with a few fish and a few loaves of bread. (Matthew 14:13-21)**
- The apostles received a word of wisdom that provided a plan that would provide for the basic needs of the widows in the church and that would**

enable them to focus on prayer and the teaching of the Word. (Acts 6:1-15)

- **Paul received a word of wisdom that preserved his life and led to his transfer to Rome. (Acts 25:9-12)**

Of all the gifts in this list, this one could be considered the lesser one with regards to being spectacular. But it has dramatic results upon those who experience it. A child was reunited with his mother. The Jews were given great favor in Babylon. It causes the disciples of Jesus to have faith in Him. Paul's life was preserved, and his missionary work was extended to Rome.

Brandon

2. Word of knowledge

There is plenty of knowledge about God and man that can be gained in the scripture. But a "word of knowledge" is personal information from God about someone or something that is not found in the scripture and that has not been obtained through experience. This type of knowledge is a manifestation gift of the Holy Spirit.

- **Joshua knew that Achan had disobeyed God and taken spoils from Jericho. (Joshua 7)**
- **Jesus knew that a woman from Samaria had been married five times and that she was living with a man who was not her husband. (John 4:1-42)**
- **Peter knew that Ananias and Saphira had lied about their financial contribution to the church. (Acts 5:1-11)**

Jerry

3. Word of faith

Faith comes from hearing the Word of God and believing it (Romans 10:17). We know that faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). Without faith, it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). Every person needs a general faith in God. All faith comes from God and from hearing God's word. Not all faith is a manifestation gift of the Holy Spirit.

But there is a kind of faith that is a manifestation gift of the Holy Spirit. This is a "word of faith." This word of faith from the Spirit puts the power of the Holy Spirit on display. A word of faith is a word directly from the Spirit of God that calls you to a specific mission. It is accompanied by an assurance that God's power will assist you in the performance of it.

- **Noah received a word of faith when He built an ark having never seen rain. (Genesis 6:13-22)**
- **Abraham received a word of faith when He left his father's house and traveled to the land of Canaan. (Genesis 12:1-4)**
- **Jesus received a word of faith when He was baptized by John and began His public ministry. (Matthew 3:13-17)**
- **Philip received a word of faith when the angel told him to go down to the desert. (Acts 8:26-40)**
- **Paul received a word of faith when the church laid hands on him and Barnabas and sent them out to be missionaries to the gentiles. (Acts 13:1-4)**

Brandon

4. Gifts of healing

Notice it says gifts of healing. It is plural. Healing means cure. Gifts of healing are cures for the mind, will, emotions, and the body.

- **Jesus cured people of shame by telling them their sins were forgiven. (Matthew 9:2-6, John 8:1-11)**
- **Jesus and the apostles cured people of demonic oppression. (Mark 5:1-20)**
- **Jesus, the apostles, and other disciples cured people of physical infirmities. (John 9:1-7)**

Jerry

5. Working of miracles

All the gifts of the Spirit are miracles because they are the result of divine intervention and cannot be explained by natural or scientific laws. The Greek word translated miracles is the word Dunamis. That is what Jesus said the church would receive on the day of Pentecost in Acts 1:8.

Why does Paul identify the working of miracles as a unique gift? We can only surmise that Paul was referring to a miracle that was not the healing of a person.

- **Moses saw ten plagues in Egypt, saw the red sea part, and saw the Jews receive manna from heaven. (Exodus 7-11)**
- **Joshua saw the sun stand still. (Joshua 10:12-15)**
- **Elijah saw an axe head float. (2 Kings 6:1-7)**
- **Jesus fed five thousand. (Matthew 14:13-21)**
- **Jesus calmed a storm. (Mark 4:35-41)**

Brandon

6. Prophecy

This word prophecy means to predict the future. There are over 2000 prophecies recorded in scripture. Most of them are about Israel, the messiah of Israel, and the end of this age.

But there are also many examples of personal prophecies that were given to specific individuals.

- **Jesus prophesied to Peter and all the disciples about their future. (Mark 14:27-31)**
- **Ananias prophesied to Paul about His future. (Acts 9:10-19)**
- **The four virgin daughters of Philip and another man named Agabus prophesied to Paul about His future. (Acts 21:10-11)**
- **Paul prophesied to a captain on a ship about the future of their journey. (Acts 27)**

Jerry

7. Discerning of spirits

Discerning means to judge. The discerning of spirits enables us to know who we should trust, what is motivating people, how we should respond to people, and how we should pray for people that are afflicted by Satan.

- **Jesus discerned Satan was oppressing Peter. (Matthew 16:21-23)**
- **Jesus discerned Satan was oppressing Judas Iscariot. (John 13:26-27)**
- **Peter discerned Satan was oppressing Ananias and Saphira. (Acts 5:1-11)**
- **Paul discerned Satan was oppressing a servant girl. (Acts 16:16-24)**

Brandon

8. Various tongues

Tongues means a language. We know from the context that Paul is talking about a language being use that the speaker has never studied or learned.

- **120 people spoke in tongues on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:4)**
- **Peter saw gentiles speak in tongues in a meeting in the home of Cornelius. (Acts 10:46)**
- **Paul saw gentiles speak in tongues. (Acts 19:6)**

Jerry

9. Interpretation of tongues

The word interpretation means translation. There are no examples of how this gift was exercised in the Bible. We can only assume that when someone was speaking in a foreign language, someone who was listening was able to understand what they were saying even though they had never studied or learned that language. (LOL: This gift is what some husbands need when their wife is talking to them.)

Conclusion

Brandon asks, “So here is the list. 9 manifestation gifts in 1 Corinthians 12. Pastor Jerry, some people have made the claim that these gifts are no longer active in the church. Has that been your experience? Have you ever experienced any of these manifestation gifts of the Holy Spirit or known others personally who experienced these gifts?”

Brandon Examples:

Seth and Alex (faith and knowledge)

Jeremy Dukes (wisdom and healing)

My cousin, Erin (moving her young family to Africa)

Pastor Jerry (prophecy that this year our church would experience a year of death – 17 members have experienced the passing of someone close to them – some of those people who passed were members of our church)

Brandon

Historically, all great spiritual awakenings have begun with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that resulted in the church exercising the gifts of the Holy Spirit. If we want our local church to be used of God to see another great awakening in our community, we must pray for a greater measure of the Holy Spirit to fill us.

We cannot receive much more of His Spirit unless we are willing to surrender much more of ourselves to Him!

Jerry

Last week we said that there are three questions that we must settle in our belief system before we can experience much more of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. Do we believe that we are the temple of the Holy Spirit?**
- 2. Do we believe that the Holy Spirit is still giving His superpowers to the church of Jesus?**
- 3. Are we willing to receive any superpower that the Holy Spirit wants to give us?**

Is the Holy Spirit welcome here? To do whatever He wills to do?

Brandon

Invitation

- **Receive the Holy Spirit by receiving Jesus as your Lord and Savior.**
- **Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill you with much more of His power.**
- **Pray for our church to experience much more of the power of the Holy Spirit.**