

Acts 1:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴ And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

You cannot attempt to understand the Power and Work of the Holy Spirit without first coming to know Him as a person
In order for us to have a deep relationship with another person we must first seek their dislikes, aims, ambitions, etc.

We all would love to see the Gifts of the Spirit operate in our lives, but are less concerned with the Fruits of the Spirit

- The Fruit of the Spirit open doors for the Gifts to flow into the lives of others

Galatians 5:22-23, 25 (NLT)

²² But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.

1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11 (NKJV)

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

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.

Same Spirit – Same Lord – Same God

- Many different ‘ministries’ and ‘activities’ yet the same triune God
- Nine gifts – Three distinct groups
- Holy Spirit doesn’t give one gift to this person one gift to another
- He is the owner of the gifts
- He distributes all of them when He wills to the believer He is using to minister to another
- They are all available for any given circumstance
- Not just this one or that one but ALL

Yes, they are for today, and No that which is perfect has not come yet!

1 Corinthians 13:8–10 (NKJV)

⁸ Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰ But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

- Love is the greatest gift
- Speaking of spiritual gifts in general, tongues in particular
- Yes, there is a time that they will cease
- And then he tells us when that time is

1 Corinthians 13:12 (NKJV)

¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

- Face to face – Jesus
- They cease in the age to come

Desiring Spiritual Gifts is for Today

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NKJV)

Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy.

The Discerning Gifts

Word of knowledge

- Holy Spirit allowing you to know something specific that you didn't learn by natural means or processes

Discerning of Spirits

- The ability to be aware of a demonic spirit
- This is not the same as discernment

A Word of Wisdom

- A divine answer or solution for a particular question or challenge
- Might be knowing exactly the right thing to say
- Might be knowing the right thing to do

The Declarative Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:10 (NKJV)

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.

- Prophecy
- Different kinds of tongues
- Interpretation of tongues

Prophecy – Prophetic messages of encouragement

- Most of us think of predicting the future
- Can be
- Not necessarily the case

“A message of encouragement from God, delivered through a human vessel, to another person or persons.”

Robert Morris – The God I Never Knew

Three elements in the definition of a prophecy

A message of encouragement not discouragement

- Not correction or rebuke
- Not a judgement

1 Corinthians 14:3 (NKJV)

³ But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

- Did the word given bring edification, exhortation, or comfort?
- This gift is among the highest and most valuable Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NKJV)

14 Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy.

Different kinds of tongues

- Four types, two categories – *public* or *private*

One – Tongues As a sign to Unbelievers

1 Corinthians 14:22 (NKJV)

²² Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.

- The Holy Spirit transcends our intellect and give us the ability to speak another language of this earth
- We saw this on the day of Pentecost
- I have witnessed this in the Soviet Union and Mexico

Two – Tongues for Interpretation

1 Corinthians 12:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ ...to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

- This type of tongue will seem to take authority in the room
- You will sense it – not just praying loud
- Pray for the interpretation – it will be in line with all that is happening in that service
- Note: if you are praying in our prayer language keep it quiet
- We will talk about our prayer tongue later

1 Corinthians 14:2-5 (NKJV)

²For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. ³But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. ⁴He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. ⁵I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies *is* greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.

- Everything for edification

Interpretation of tongues

- Understanding and expressing the thought or intent of a message in tongues
- “thought or intent”
- Not “translation”
- Sometimes the “tongue” can be long and “translation” long
- Sometimes the opposite
- It is not a word for word translation
- The interpreter just need to get the “gist” of the message communicated
- This has a lot to do with the interpreter’s personality
- The interpreter can be the same person or a different person
- Remember Prophecy is more important than an unknown tongue

1 Corinthians 14:27, 28, 33 (NKJV)

²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, *let there be* two or at the most three, *each* in turn, and let one interpret.

²⁸ But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.

³³ For God is not *the author* of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

- Both an interpreted message and a prophetic word are accessible by everyone in a service and will provide, encouragement, exhortation, or comfort

Three – Tongues for Personal Prayer

1 Corinthians 14:14–15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. ¹⁵ What is *the conclusion* then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

- Tongues for a sign are intended to reach out and minister to the unbeliever
- Tongues for interpretation are intended to minister to the believer
- The prayer tongue is for personal edification
- We pray both in unknown tongues as well as our native tongue

1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV)

²For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

- We are not speaking to men, but God
- A private interaction between God and the one praying
- It is to strengthen and build up – **See Jude 1:20,21**

It is possible to be filled with Spirit and not pray in tongues

- I do believe every believer has the ability
- Some do not operate in it because they have not yielded to it by faith
- Every good and perfect gift from God is activated by faith

Four – Tongues for Intercession

Romans 8:26–27 (NKJV)

²⁶Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

- What is the weakness? – When we don't know what to pray

You and I have limited understanding of what is going on in the world – He prays the perfect will of God through us

The Dynamic Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:7, 9-10 (NKJV)

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

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.

- Faith
- Gifts of healings
- Working of miracles

The Gift of Faith – Supernatural Confidence

Everything we access in the Kingdom of God is through faith
We are taught that faith comes by hearing the word of God
Suggesting it is a choice we make and that it is something that can evolve

- The Gift of Faith is something imparted apart from the everyday faith that all of us have available to exercise our Christian walk

“It is a supernatural endowment of belief and confidence for a specific situation”

– Robert Morris – the God I Never Knew

We see this in Mark Chapter 4 when Jesus and the disciples are in the middle of a storm as they attempt to cross the sea of Galilee that has all of them panicking and in fear for their lives

- They are experienced fishermen and sailors
- Jesus is genuinely annoyed that they wake Him up
- Jesus speaks to the storm and it ceases

In the book of acts we see a man named Ananias walking in the gift of faith when he is called upon by the Lord to lay hands on Saul to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit

Acts 9:1–2 (NIV)

9 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

- Saul is ordering Christians to be beaten or imprisoned
- Ananias is not aware of Saul's encounter with Jesus knocking him off his donkey and on his...#*!
- He boldly obeys the Lord
- That's supernatural confidence

Tell the story of our move to Ionia and to Fremont

Gifts of Healings – Supernatural Healing

This is not the Holy Spirit depositing a “*special*” gifting in “*special*” people, so they have the power to pray for people and see them healed

- Not to say that the Lord doesn’t use a particular person consistently in the area of healing
- This is not only for the TV Evangelist
- Remember the Holy Spirit is the one who owns the gifts and distributes them
- They are for all!
- This gift can come through another person but doesn’t have to

The power to heal is not always a given

Luke 5:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were **Pharisees and teachers** of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them.

Mark 6:5–6 (NKJV)

⁵ Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*. ⁶ And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

Acts 3:6–8 (NKJV) *Beggar at the gate beautiful*

⁶ Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.” ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and lifted *him* up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. ⁸ So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.

- Peter and John probably passed by this man many times before
- This day something was different
- The Gifts of Healings
- Girl in Russia

The Working of Miracles

- Again, this is not deposited on only a few select individuals
- The power to see a miracle take place is available to ALL who believe
- God worked miracles in the OT
- He worked miracles in the NT
- God is still working miracles today
- These last two gifts are listed in plural
- There are plenty to go around

1 Corinthians 12 is followed by the “love chapter”

- It is important that all things be done with love as our motivator
- They are not intended to cause confusion

Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV)

⁸ Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.

- God is immutable – He never changes
- He is still on His throne!
- He still works miracles today!

John 14:12 (NKJV)

¹² “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Acts 2:42–47 (NKJV)

⁴² And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

The baptism of the Holy spirit is available to every believer

He is a free gift poured out upon those who ask

A few of the benefits

- Comfort – **John 14:15-17; 1 Corinthians 14:3**
- Conviction – **John 16:8-11**
- Counsel – **John 16:13; Acts 16:6**
- Fellowship – **2 Corinthians 13:14; Philippians 2:1**
- Gifts – **Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-10; 14:1; Hebrews 2:4**
- Fruit – **Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 5:9**
Revealed Mysteries – **1 Corinthians 2:6-12**
- Prayer Help – **Romans 8:26; 1 Corinthians 14:15**
- Power – **Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8; 10:38; Romans 15:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:5**
- Liberty – **Romans 8:2; 2 Corinthians 3:17**

Luke 11:10–13 (NKJV)

¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he asks* for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? ¹²Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? ¹³If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”