

## **Observations in Relation to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, #4**

- I. The Differences Between Spiritual Gifts and Talents:**
  - A. Talents are natural abilities given to us by God at our physical birth.**
  - B. Spiritual gifts are supernatural abilities given to us by God at our spiritual birth (1 Corinthians 12:13; 1 Peter 4:10).**
  - C. Every born-again believer has at least one spiritual gift which was given at the moment of salvation for the glorification of God and the edification of the Body of Christ—the Church (*I Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:7; I Peter 4:10*).**
  
- II. How to Discover Your Spiritual Gift or Gifts:**
  - A. Education or Information – be informed; learn about spiritual gifts (I Corinthians 12:1-28; Romans 12:3-8; Ephesians 4:11-16; I Peter 4:9-11).**
  - B. Motivation — What do you desire to do?**
  - C. Observation — What do you do that blesses or edifies others?**
  - D. Confirmation — What do others tell you that you do that blesses or edifies them?**
  - E. What do you believe to be one of your spiritual gifts?**
  
- III. The Gift of Prophecy (*Romans 12:6; I Corinthians 12:10*).**
  - A. The gift of prophesy is a speaking gift that enables the speaker to speak to people words of edification, encouragement, and comfort (*I Corinthians 14:3*).**
  - B. The gift of prophecy may be exercised through preaching, teaching, praising (as a worship leader), testifying and so on.**
  
- IV. The Gift of Ministry or Service or Helps (*Romans 12:7; I Corinthians 12:28*).**
  - A. The gift of service, ministry, or helps is the supernatural ability to assist, support, help, serve, or minister to others so that they may more effectively use their gift or gifts to edify the Body of Christ as in *Acts 6:1-7*.**
  - B. Some of the ministry areas for the exercising of this gift are the Nursery, Bus Ministry, Tape Ministry, Parking**

Attendant, Ushers, Kitchen Crew, Greeter, Hospital Visitation, shut-in Visitation, Deacons, and so on.

- V. **The Gift of Teaching (*Romans 12:7*).**
- A. The gift of teaching is the supernatural ability to prepare, to explain, and to apply the Word of God to current life situations.
  - B. The gift of teaching may be exercised in the home, Sunday School, small groups, one to one, and so on.
- VI. **The Gift of Exhortation or Encouragement (*Romans 12:8*).**
- A. The gift of exhortation or encouragement is the supernatural ability to come along side someone to encourage, comfort, counsel, or strengthen them.
  - B. The exhortation or encouragement may be exercised anywhere that a member of the Body of Christ is in need of exhortation or encouragement.
- VII. **The Gift of Giving (*Romans 12:8*).**
- A. The gift of giving is the supernatural ability to give cheerfully and unconditionally to the work of the Lord and to meet the needs of others.
  - B. The gift of giving may be exercised in the local church to which one is a member and where there is a need in the Body of Christ.
- VIII. **The Gift of Ruling or Leadership or Administration or Governments (*Romans 12:8; I Corinthians 12:28*).**
- A. The gift of ruling or leadership or administration or governments is the supernatural ability to see visions, set goals, and motivate people to work together to accomplish those goals for the glory of God.
  - B. The gift of ruling or leadership or administration or governments can be exercised in the home and in the local church (*I Timothy 3:4, 12; 5:17*).
- IX. **The Gift of Showing Mercy (*Romans 12:8*).**
- A. The gift of showing mercy is the supernatural ability to feel compassion for others and to seek to remove their suffering.
  - B. The gift of showing mercy may be exercised through Shut-in, Visitation, Hospital Visitation, Deacon, Nursery Work and so on.

- X. The Gift of the Word of Wisdom (*I Corinthians 12:8*).**
- A. The gift of the word of wisdom is the supernatural ability to say and do the right thing at the right time or the practical application of knowledge to a particular situation.**
  - B. The gift of the word of wisdom may be exercised as a deacon, Committee member, Pre-Marital Counselor, Coordinator of a ministry and so on.**
- XI. The Gifts of the Word of Knowledge (*I Corinthians 12:8*).**
- A. The gift of the word of knowledge is the supernatural revelation of knowledge or facts to the believer; and the investigation, accumulation, clarification or interpretation of facts for the edification of the Body of Christ.**
  - B. This gift may be exercised in carrying out one's responsibilities as a counselor, teacher, deacon, pastor, committee member, and so on.**
- XII. The Gift of Faith (*I Corinthians 12:9*).**
- A. The gift of faith is the supernatural ability to believe God for the extraordinary or seemingly impossible.**
  - B. The gift of faith may be exercised by those carrying out their responsibilities as a leader in the body of Christ, such as pastor, deacon, chairperson, ministry coordinator, and so on.**
- XIII. The Gift of Discerning of Spirits (*I Corinthians. 12:10*).**
- A. The gift of the discerning of spirits is the supernatural ability to determine what is from the Holy Spirit, human spirit, and demonic spirit or what is from God, the flesh, and Satan.**
  - B. Although all believers do not have the gift of the discerning of spirits, all believers are to discern the spirits (1 John 4:1-5).**
  - C. Three spirits that influence us:**
    - 1. The Holy Spirit (Numbers 24:2; Judges 3:10; 13:25; 14:19; 1 Samuel 10:10; 16:13; 19:23; 2 Samuel 23:2; 1 Chronicles 12:18; Matthew 4:1; 10:20; Acts 8:29; 10:19; 1 Timothy 4:1).**
    - 2. The human spirit (Exodus 6:9; 1 Samuel 1:15; Judges 15:19; 1 Chronicles 5:26; 2 Chronicles 36:22; Ezra 1:1; Psalm 34:18; 51:10, 17; Proverbs 14:29; 16:19; 17:27; 25:28;**

**Ecclesiastes 7:8-9; 12:7; Isaiah 57:15; Ezekiel 13:3; Daniel 5:12; 6:3; Haggai 1:14; Luke 8:55; 9:55; Acts 17:16; James 2:26).**

**3. The demonic spirit (1 Kings 22:21-23; Matthew 12:43-45; 16:21-23; Mark 1:23, 27; 3:30; 5:2, 13; 9:17, 20, 25; Luke 4: 33, 36; 7:21; 13:11; Revelation 16:14; 18:2).**

**XIV. The Gift of Hospitality (*I Peter 4:9-10*).**

- A. The gift of hospitality is the supernatural ability to open one's heart and one's home to welcome strangers in the body of Christ or to provide temporary food and lodging for those in need in the body of Christ without looking for anything in return.**
- B. The Gift of hospitality may be exercised in ministry areas that brings one in contact with strangers, such as ushering, parking attendant, Foreign Exchange Student Host, and so on.**
- C. Although all believers do not have the gift of hospitality, all believers are to be hospitable (Hebrews 13:2).**

**XV. The Gift of Evangelism (*Ephesians 4:11*).**

- A. The gift of evangelism is the supernatural ability to communicate the Gospel message in such a way that the lost are won to Jesus Christ.**
- B. Although all believers do not have the gift of evangelism, all believers are to be involved in evangelizing (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 1:8).**
- C. The gift of evangelism may be exercised anywhere that one comes in contact with lost souls.**

**XVI. The Gift of Celibacy (*I Corinthians 7:7-9*).**

- A. The gift of celibacy is the supernatural ability to be single and satisfied.**
- B. The gift of celibacy may be given at the moment of salvation or at the time of the loss of one's spouse.**
- C. The gift of celibacy enables one to serve God without certain distractions and may be exercised in any ministry to which one is called (*I Corinthians 7:32-35*).**

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