

Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual Gifts An Introduction

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:1, 31

1 Corinthians 12:1, 31 (NKJV) Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

Introduction

In any study of spiritual gifts, there are a few questions which invariably must be answered. Here are some of those questions and their answers:

I. Common questions about spiritual gifts

- A. What are spiritual gifts?
 1. Divine callings God places upon certain people
 2. Abilities and inclinations placed within us as part of our original design
 3. Supernatural abilities given by God for the edification of the Church (eklesia)
- B. Are spiritual gifts still being given?

Acts 2:39 (NKJV) "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."
- C. What is the purpose of spiritual gifts?

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NKJV) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one **for the profit of all:**

1 Corinthians 14:26 (NKJV) How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. **Let all things be done for edification.**
- D. Who is a candidate for spiritual gifts?

1 Corinthians 12:11 (NKJV) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one individually** as He wills.
- E. What should be my attitude toward spiritual gifts?

1 Corinthians 12:31 (NKJV) But earnestly desire the best gifts.

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NKJV) Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but

especially that you may prophesy.

II. The three divisions of spiritual gifts

- A. Ministry gifts

Ephesians 4:11 (NKJV) And He Himself gave some to be **apostles**, some **prophets**, some **evangelists**, and some **pastors** and **teachers**,
- B. Motivational gifts

Romans 12:6-8 (NKJV) 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.

1 Corinthians 12:28 (NKJV) And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, **helps**, **administrations**, varieties of tongues.
- C. Equipping gifts

1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NKJV) 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**.

III. A listing of spiritual gifts

- A. Ministry gifts
 1. Apostles
 2. Prophets
 3. Evangelists
 4. Pastors
 5. Teachers
- B. Motivational gifts
 1. Service
 2. Exhortation
 3. Giving 7.
 4. Leadership
 5. Mercy
 6. Helps
 7. Administration

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- C. Equipping gifts
 - 1. Intuitive gifts
 - a. Word of wisdom
 - b. Word of knowledge
 - c. Discerning of spirits
 - 2. Power gifts
 - a. Working of miracles
 - b. Gifts of healings
 - c. Faith
 - 3. Vocal gifts
 - a. Prophecy
 - b. Tongues
 - c. Interpretation of tongues

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Spiritual Gifts The Ministry Gifts

Scripture: Ephesians 4:11

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head; Christ; 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Introduction

The ministry gifts are sometimes known as the five - fold ministry. These gifts are gifted men and women whom God gives to His church for the specific purpose of bringing God's people to maturity and fruition

I. The purpose of the ministry gifts

Ephesians 4:12-15 (NKJV) for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head; Christ;

- A. To bring the saints to spiritual maturity
- B. To prepare the saints for works of service
- C. To bring unity of faith and purpose
- D. To bring a consistent understanding and experiential knowledge of Jesus Christ
- E. To bring about full growth
- F. To bring stability to the body

- G. To identify false doctrine
- H. To speak the truth in love
- I. To make Jesus the head of the church

II. The description of the ministry gifts

A. Apostles

1. The Twelve Apostles of the Lamb

- a. General references
Matthew 4:18-22, 9:9, 10:1-4; Mark 1:16-17, 2:14, 3:13-19; Luke 5:10-11, 27, 6:13-16
- b. Distinctive nature of their calling
 - 1) Ordained as witnesses of Jesus ministry and resurrection
 - 2) Taught doctrine by Jesus
 - 3) Authorities concerning doctrine

c. Their ranks closed with Matthias

2. Apostles of the Church

Acts 13:1-2 (NKJV) Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

3. Their ministry

- a. Operated in the equipping gifts
- b. Founders of churches
- c. Set churches in order
Acts 14:22-23; Titus 1:5
- d. Authorities in doctrinal matters pertaining to the local church
Acts 7:1a

B. Prophets

1. General References
Acts 13:1, 15, 11:27, 21:10
2. Guidelines concerning prophetic ministry in public worship

1 Corinthians 14:29-32 (NKJV)

Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. 30 But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. 32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

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3. Used especially in the gifts of:
 - a. Word of Wisdom
 - b. Word of Knowledge - Acts 5:3-4
 - c. Prophecy - Acts 11:27-30, 21:10-11
 - d. Interpretation of tongues
 4. Exhorting and comforting - Acts 15:32
- C. Evangelists
- 2 Timothy 4:5 (NKJV)** But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
1. General references
Acts 21:8; Ephesians 4:11; 2 Timothy 4:5
 2. Seems to parallel the ministry of the prophet except:
 - a. Term of service in a single locale tends to be shorter
 - b. He does not bring new believers to maturity
 - c. Does not set a church in order
 3. Has similar gifts as the apostle
 4. Specializes in doctrines of:
 - a. The new birth
 - b. Christology
 - c. The cross and its provision
- D. Pastors - The shepherd
1. Term used only once in the scripture. Comes from the greek word "poimen" ποιμεν
 2. Develops the Christ life in the body
Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.
Ephesians 5:9-10 (NKJV) (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.
 3. Nurtures and provides care
 4. Attends to the general health of the body
- E. Teachers
- 1 Timothy 3:2 (NKJV)** A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;
- 2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)** Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of**

truth.

1. The theologian of the ministry gifts
2. The doctrinal authority
3. Seeks out and instructs in the depths of God's word

Acts 17:11 (NKJV) These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

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Spiritual Gifts The Work of the Ministry Gifts

Scripture: Ephesians 4:11-16

Ephesians 4:11-16 NKJV ¹¹And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

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Please note here ... the emphasis is not upon the men God has called into the so-called five fold ministry, but upon the work they are commissioned to achieve in the church itself. Their work is to prepare the saints to do kingdom work, not to become the ministry or lord it over believers. **They are not the ministry:** rather, they are to prepare the saints to do the work of the ministry.

I. Equipping the saints for the work of the ministry

Ephesians 4:12a NKJV ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry,

A. Discovering your gifts

1 Corinthians 12:11 NKJV ¹¹But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

B. Developing your gifts

1 Corinthians 14:12 NKJV ¹²Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, **let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.**

C. Utilizing your gifts

1 Corinthians 14:26 NKJV ²⁶How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

II. Edifying the body of Christ

Ephesians 4:12b NKJV for the edifying of the body of Christ,

A. Insuring a proper spiritual diet

Philippians 4:8 NKJV ⁸Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

B. Developing discipline in the body – like receiving military training

Hebrews 12:11 NKJV

¹¹Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Job 5:17 NKJV ¹⁷Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects; Therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty.

1. Building spiritual muscle

2. Toning up the body

C. Guarding from infection from external sources

III. Achieving unity of the faith and of the knowledge of Christ

Ephesians 4:13a NKJV ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God,

A. **Illustration:** Child touching a hot stove

1. Curious child touches hot pan with index finger

2. Brain tells finger, "That's hot, move away quickly"

3. Arm muscles cooperate to move finger away

4. Eyes cooperate by producing tears

5. Vocal cords produce a crying sound

B. Unity is prerequisite to proper bodily function

1 Corinthians 12:12-18 NKJV

¹²For as the body is one and has many

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members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. ¹³For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴For in fact the body is not one member but many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁷If the whole body *were* an eye, where *would be* the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *would be* the smelling? ¹⁸But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.

- C. Unity occurs within a framework of order
1 Corinthians 14:40 NKJV ⁴⁰Let all things be done decently and in order.
Colossians 2:5 NKJV ⁵For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

IV. Growing to full maturity measured in comparison to Jesus Christ

Ephesians 4:13b NKJV to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

- A. Taking responsibility for spiritual self care
2 Peter 1:10-11 NKJV ¹⁰Therefore, brethren, **be even more diligent to make your call and election sure**, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- B. Learning to fully utilize the gifts He has placed within us
1 Timothy 4:14-15 NKJV ¹⁴**Do not neglect the gift that is in you**, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. ¹⁵Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.
- C. Operating in total obedience to the voice of the Holy Spirit

Acts 16:6-7 NKJV ⁶Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. ⁷After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

V. Achieving spiritual stability

Ephesians 4:14 NKJV ¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

- A. Understanding the Word

2 Timothy 2:15 NKJV ¹⁵Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- B. Recognizing sound doctrine

John 7:17 NKJV ¹⁷If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or *whether* I speak on My own *authority*. ¹⁸He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.

VI. Receiving the headship of Jesus Christ

Ephesians 4:15 NKJV ¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ

- A. The body conducts itself in absolute obedience to the head

1 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJV ⁴For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ**,

- B. Receiving and using the authority of the Head

Titus 2:13 NKJV ¹³Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

VII. Working cooperatively to achieve His purpose

Ephesians 4:16 NKJV ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by

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what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Ephesians 2:19-22 NKJV ¹⁹Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, ²¹in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

- A. Each member fulfilling its function to the benefit of the body
- B. Standing ready to assist other members to achieve the orders of the Head

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Spiritual Gifts Motivational Gifts

Scripture: Romans 12:6-8
1 Corinthians 12:28

Romans 12:6-8 (NKJV) 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.

1 Corinthians 12:28 (NKJV) And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, **helps**, **administrations**, varieties of tongues.

I. What is a motivational gift?

Romans 12:6a (NKJV) Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us

A. From the Greek text

1. Gifts χαρισματα

5486. charismata, khar'-is-mah; from G5483; a (divine) gratuity, i.e. deliverance (from danger or passion); (spec.) **a (spiritual) endowment**, i.e. (subj.) religious qualification, or (obj.) **miraculous faculty**:--(free) gift.

2. Grace χαρις

5485. charis, khar'-ece; from G5463; graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstr. or concr.; lit., fig. or spiritual; espec. **the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life**; including gratitude):--acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace (-ious), joy liberality, pleasure, thank (-s, -worthy).

B. A special sensitivity or endowment

1. As in mercy, a special ability to empathize with the feelings of the other party
2. An ability which consistently draws us to a response or service
3. Special skills which you are inwardly driven to use

II. How motivational gifts differ from other spiritual gifts

- A. Motivational gifts tend to be rooted more in our original design than in a spiritual experience
- B. A person's motivational gifts will almost automatically surface in an environment requiring that gift
- C. Motivational gifts utilize talents, abilities or skills, and training

III. What are the motivational gifts

A. Ministry

1248. diakonia, dee-ak-on-ee'-ah; from G1249; attendance (as a servant, etc.); fig. (eleemosynary) aid, (official) service (espec. of the Chr. teacher, or techn. of the diaconate):--(ad-) minister (-ing, -tration, -try), office, relief, service (-ing).

B. Exhortation

3874. paraklesis, par-ak'-lay-sis; from G3870; imploration, hortation, solace:--comfort, consolation, exhortation, intreaty.

C. Giving

3330. metadidomi, met-ad-id'-o-mee; from G3326 and G1325; to give over, i.e. share:--give, impart.

D. Leadership

4291. proistemi, pro-is'-tay-mee; from G4253 and G2476; to stand before, i.e. (in rank) to preside, or (by impl.) to practise:--maintain, be over, rule.

E. Mercy

1653. eleeo, el-eh-eh'-o; from G1656; to compassionate (by word or deed, spec. by divine grace):--have compassion (pity on), have (obtain, receive, shew) mercy (on).

F. Helping

484. antilepsis, an-till'-ape-sis; from G482; relief:--help.

G. Administration

2941. kubernesias, koo-ber'-nay-sis; from kubernaos (of Lat. or., to steer); pilotage, i.e. (fig.) directorship (in the church):--government.

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Spiritual Gifts The Equipping Gifts

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:8-10

1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NKJV) 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, 10 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.

I. What is an equipping gift?

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NKJV) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given **to each one** for the profit of all:

- A. A supernatural ability
- B. An ability one could not acquire by natural means
- C. A portion of God's omnipotence and omniscience given to the individual believer for a specific purpose and time

II, What are the purposes of the equipping gifts?

1 Corinthians 14:25-26 (NKJV) And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on his face, **he will worship God and report that God is truly among you.** 26 How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. **Let all things be done for edification.**

- A. To produce the "signs following them that believe"
- B. To provide the believer with supernatural insight
- C. To edify or build up the body in its worship and private devotions
- D. To make the diverse members of the body mutually dependent upon one another

III. How are these gifts classified and defined?

1 Corinthians 12:31 (NKJV) **But earnestly desire the best gifts.** And yet I show you a more excellent way.

- A. The gifts of revelation - intuitive

1. The word of wisdom - Acts 15:13-20

A revelation of supernatural wisdom, or insight into the divine will showing how to solve any problem that may arise within the jurisdiction of the church. (Limits of church jurisdiction are set forth in Matthew 16:19) This revelation is a **word** of wisdom: not all divine wisdom is revealed, but that portion which deals with the situation at hand

2. The word of knowledge - Acts 5:3-4

A revelation of supernatural knowledge or insight into the divine will, or plan; and also the plan of others that man could not know of himself given to expose to the church situations pertaining to and affecting the church body. Again, not all knowledge is revealed, but a **word** of knowledge

3. The discerning of spirits - Acts 16:17

A supernatural revelation giving insight into the realm of spirits to detect them, and their plans, and to read the thoughts of men

B. The gifts of inspiration - verbal

1. Prophecy - Acts 11:28, 21:10

A supernatural utterance in the native tongue speaking to men to edify, comfort and exhort. It is a miracle of divine utterance, not conceived by human thought or reasoning. It is not necessarily foretelling coming events, though sometimes this is the case.

2. Diverse kinds of tongues - 1 Corinthians 14:18

A supernatural utterance in a language, either heavenly or earthly, not known to the speaker. This particular gift is not synonymous with the phenomenon of tongues which serves as an initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit, nor with unknown tongues used in prayer or private devotions.

3. Interpretation of tongues - 1 Corinthians 14:27

The supernatural ability to interpret in the native language utterances by the Spirit in diverse kinds of tongues or languages not known by the one who interprets by the Spirit. The combination of the gifts of tongues with the gift of

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- interpretation of tongues is the equivalent of the gift of prophecy
- C. The gifts of actualization - power
1. Faith - Acts 27:25
The supernatural ability to believe God without doubt, unbelief and reasonings
 2. Gifts of healings - numerous references
The supernatural ability to heal all manner of sickness and disease without human aid or medicine.
 3. Working of miracles - Acts 13:8-11; 20:9-10
The supernatural power to intervene in the course of nature and to counteract natural law.

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Spiritual Gifts Operation of the Equipping Gifts The Gifts of Revelation

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:8, 10c

1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NKJV) 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, 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.

I. The word of wisdom

A. What it is not

1. A high degree of intellectual or moral efficiency
- 2.. Administrative wisdom
3. Prudence, discretion, sagacity in word or act

B. New Testament examples of its use

1. Peter

Acts 10:19-20 (NKJV) While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. 20 **Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them.**"

2. Paul

Acts 27:21-25 (NKJV) But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. 22 "And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. 23 "For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, 24 "saying, 'Do **not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar**; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.' 25 "Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just

as it was told me.

3. James

Acts 15:13, 19 (NKJV) And after they had become silent, James answered, saying, "Men and brethren, listen to me: 19 "Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God,

II. The word of knowledge

A. What it is not

1. Natural ability, learning, enlightenment
2. Profound knowledge of the scriptures and theology

B. New Testament examples

1. Peter

Acts 5:9 (NKJV) Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."

2. Ananias

Acts 9:11-12 (NKJV) So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. 12 "And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight."

3. Agabus

Acts 11:28 (NKJV) Then one of them, named Agabus, stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar.

Acts 21:10-11 (NKJV) And as we stayed many days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. 11 When he had come to us, he took Paul's belt, bound his own hands and feet, and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"

III. Discerning of spirits

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- A. New Testament occasions of its use
1. Numerous occasions in the gospels
 2. Simon the sorcerer
Acts 8:20-23 (NKJV) But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! 21 "You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. 22 "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 "For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity."
 3. Elymas the sorcerer
Acts 13:8-11 (NKJV) But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? 11 "And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand.
 4. The Philippian maiden
Acts 16:16-18 (NKJV) Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. 17 This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." 18 And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour.

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Spiritual Gifts Operation of the Equipping Gifts The Gifts of Inspiration

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:10b, d-e

1 Corinthians 12:10 (NKJV) 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**.

I. Prophecy

A. Examples

1. The daughters of Phillip
Acts 21:8-9 (NKJV) On the next day we who were Paul's companions departed and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. 9 Now **this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied**.

2. Agabus
Acts 11:28 (NKJV) Then one of them, named Agabus, **stood up and showed by the Spirit** that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar.

B. Operation during public worship

1 Corinthians 14:29-32 (NKJV) Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. 30 But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. 32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

1. Maximum of three messages
2. Each message should be judged by the elders
3. One message at a time
4. Gift is totally under the control of the speaker

II. Different kinds of tongues and the interpretation of tongues

A. Examples

1. Paul

1 Corinthians 14:18 (NKJV) I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all;

2. Corinthian believers

1 Corinthians 14:26 (NKJV)
How is it then, brethren? **Whenever you come together, each of you** has a psalm, has a teaching, **has a tongue**, has a revelation, **has an interpretation**. Let all things be done for edification.

1 Corinthians 14:13 (NKJV)
Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.

B. Operation

1 Corinthians 14:27-28 (NKJV) 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.

1. Maximum of three messages
2. Delivered by course
 - a. Tongue followed by an interpretation
 - b. Each message must be interpreted before another is given
 - c. No additional tongue may be given if there is no interpretation
3. Subject to being judged by elders

III. The goal of edification

1 Corinthians 14:12 (NKJV) Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.

1 Corinthians 14:40 (NKJV) Let all things be done decently and in order.

A. These gifts were given to **edify**

- a. Gifts are for **collective** vs. individual edification
 - b. Edification is the test of validity
- B. No other use in public worship is appropriate
- C. Gifts are not a sign of great spirituality

1 Corinthians 4:7 (NKJV) For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

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Spiritual Gifts **Operation of the Equipping** **Gifts** **The Gifts of Actualization**

Scripture: 1Corinthians 12:9, 10a

1 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NKJV) to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healings** by the same Spirit, 10 to another the **working of miracles**,

I. Faith

A. Peter

Matthew 14:28-29 (NKJV) And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

B. Paul

1. During the great storm at sea
Acts 27:25 (NKJV) "Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me. 31 Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved."

2.

On Malta

Acts 28:3-5 (NKJV) But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand. 4 So when the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live." 5 But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm.

II. Gifts of healings

A. Peter

Acts 5:15-16 (NKJV) so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. 16 Also a

multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

B. Philip

Acts 8:7-8 (NKJV) For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. 8 And there was great joy in that city.

C. Paul

Acts 19:11-12 (NKJV) Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

III. Working of miracles

Acts 13:8-11; 20:9-10

A. Paul

1. Elymas the sorcerer

Acts 13:8-11 (NKJV) But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? 11 "And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand

2. Eutychus

Acts 20:9-10 (NKJV) And in a window sat a certain young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep. He was overcome by sleep; and as Paul continued speaking, he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead. 10 But Paul went down, fell on him, and embracing him said, "Do not trouble yourselves, for his life is in him."

B. Philip

Acts 8:39-40 (NKJV) Now when

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they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.