

PRAYER STUDY 117  
**Gifts of Revelation and Gifts of Power**

At First Love Ministries, we recognize 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit:

- I. **Gifts of Revelation** (Think Like God)
  - a. A Word of Wisdom
  - b. A Word of Knowledge
  - c. Discerning of Spirits
- II. **Gifts of Power** (Act like God)
  - a. Faith
  - b. Working of Miracles
  - c. Gifts of Healing
- III. **Gifts of Inspiration** (Talk like God)
  - a. Prophecy
  - b. Divers kinds of tongues
  - c. Interpretation of tongues

We base this on the listing in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:8-10 and from the excellent teaching we have received from Pastor Don Van Hoosier at High Point Church. Much of the material we will cover tonight comes directly from his teachings. We have already covered the Gifts of Inspiration, which tend to be the most controversial of the gifts. (There are other listings in at least two places: Romans 12:6-8 which indicates that prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, ruling, showing mercy as gifts of the Spirit, and 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:28 includes apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, gifts of healing, helps, government, diversities of tongues, but we will stick to the 9 gifts of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:8-10.)

Those who have not experienced and are not open to the Baptism in the Holy Spirit often express three opinions of spiritual gifts:

1. Some say everybody has spiritual gifts but that they are not being manifested. If this were so, we would not be told to desire and covet them.
2. Some say they are optional, but we are told not to be ignorant of them and commanded to desire them and covet them earnestly.
3. Some deny them as being for another day, but they are present in measure in many areas of the church today. And frankly, I believe that church history shows that they have in at least a measure been here since Pentecost.

There are at least four things that the Word of God tells us not to be ignorant of:

1. **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:1-10:** *Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, that all our fathers were under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and did all eat the same spiritual food; and did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased; for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us put Christ to the test, as some of them also tested Him, and were destroyed by serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed by the destroyer.*
2. **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:1:** *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.*
3. **1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:13:** *But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them who are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others who have no hope.*
4. **2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:8** *But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.*

### **Six Remaining Gifts of the Holy Spirit (not previously covered):**

1. **Word of Wisdom:** Harold Horton says, “It has to do with the supernatural unfolding of His plans and Purposes concerning things, places, people, individuals, communities, nations. It may be manifested by an audible voice, angelic visitation, by dream or vision or through the Gifts of Prophecy or Tongues and Interpretation.” In scripture the Word of Wisdom was used to warn and guide people of coming judgment (Genesis 6:13-22, Genesis 19:12-13, Matthew 2:20); to reveal God’s plans to one whom God is going to use (Genesis 41:16, 28-41); to assure a servant of God of his divine commission (Moses at the burning bush or Paul in Acts 26:16); to reveal the future (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 9:6); and to give personal guidance in a particular direction in unique circumstances (Acts 21:11).

- 2. Word of Knowledge:** The Word of Knowledge is a supernatural revelation given by the Holy Spirit of certain facts in the mind of God. It was used in the scripture to know men's thoughts (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 9:19, John 2:24); to discover a man in hiding (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 10:22); to expose a hypocrite (2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 5:20-27); and to tell of an enemy's plan of destruction (2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 6:9-12). Harold Horton in his book *The Gifts of the Spirit* tells of the gift being used to aid in effectual prayer for God's servants in distress or for those in need of spiritual help; to recover lost people or property; to reveal the causes of sickness or demon-possession; and to reveal facts in private lives for spiritual correction or profit.
- 3. Discerning of Spirits:** This is one of the most practical gifts of the Holy Spirit and very needed today. Only by this gift will be able to tell in the endtimes whether God is really moving in a meeting or if we are seeing Satan's lying wonders (II Thessalonians 2:9). However, we don't need this gift to discern a false prophet for Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets...Ye shall know them by their fruits." (Matthew 7:15-20) Discerning of Spirits is not some kind of spiritual Peeping Tom to look into another's inner life nor is it mind reading or something to be used to judge others. The gift is used to know how to intelligently minister to and pray for the afflicted, mentally confused, oppressed, and troubled; to expose error-(We read in 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 4:1 and II Peter 2:1 that there will be "doctrines of devils" and "damnable heresies", "seducing spirits," and "lying spirits" that deceive the very elect if it were possible)-; to expose the devil's tactics(such as Paul did when the woman at Philippi kept following him around); to expose those ministering under a false anointing and satanic "signs and lying wonders" (2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:9); and to discern any spirits involved in physical illness.
- 4. The Gift of Faith:** There is a difference, of course, between "saving faith"(Ephesians 2:8) and the Gift of Faith. The Gift of Faith is a God-given enablement to believe God for the impossible and the improbable. The Gift of Faith is used to raise the dead; to cast out demonic spirits; to stand on the promise God has given you, even if you have to wait for years to see it come to pass.
- 5. The Working of Miracles:** The Working of Miracles is never natural phenomenon (such as a beautiful sunset). A miracle is a naturally impossible "sudden and unaccountable reversal" of the natural order of things. We find many evidences of miracles in the scriptures. These include the deliverance of those millions of

Israelites from Egypt (Exodus 14:16). Miracles also were used to meet physical need as when Moses smote the Rock to quench the thirst of those millions in Exodus 17 and when Jesus fed the 5000 in Matthew 14:17-21. Miracles confirmed the Word as it was preached (Hebrews 2:4, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:4-5) and brought judgment (Acts 13:11-12). Miracles showed forth God's power in John 5:30 and delivered from circumstances of danger in Matthew 8:23).

6. **The Gifts of Healing:** Spiritual healing is the curing of diseases, injuries, and congenital diseases by God's power without natural or medical means. 90% of our Lord's ministry was that of healing the sick. Let's face it—one sure sign that “this same Jesus” is in the midst of His people will be the healing of the sick. We must warn, however, that just because someone has this gift does not mean that every person they pray for will recover. Also, we need to point out that any believer, even those who do not have the supernatural gifts of healing, can pray for the sick and see the sick recover or be healed. This is especially true of the elders, when called upon by the sick to anoint with oil, as it says in Mark 6:13 and in James 5:14-15.

Healing is something that I believe the Lord wants to anoint here in this place. I must confess, however, that it has always been such a mystery to me. I do know that it certainly involves faith. Sometimes it is proxy faith when the person is too sick to believe for himself or too sick to come for help (Mark 2:5). Sometimes it involves the combined faith of the sufferer and the elders (James 5:14-15) or the minister (Matthew 9:28-29). Sometimes it is the faith of the minister alone, especially when the other needs to be raised from the dead or is unconscious. (Matthew 9:25) And sometimes it is the faith of the sick one alone as in Luke 8:48.

We have known of unbelievers who have been healed. This act often brings them to a real relationship with Jesus. And we have seen the Lord heal one in another state who did not even know we were praying for him, and we have merely sent the Word to heal people and seen results. We see through a mirror dimly, however, and have known those who seemed to have great faith and were in a body of believers of great faith and really believed the person was going to be healed. Unfortunately (or maybe gloriously) the person died. As David Wilkerson once said, “That is the ultimate healing.”