

The Power of the Holy Spirit

Part B

Acts 1:8 You shall receive power in the Holy Spirit comes upon you...

- 1) Power to Share Christ Boldly
- 2) Power to Live for Christ Supernaturally
- 3) Power to Experience God Fully

The Gifts of the Spirit

In the Book of Acts, the Holy Spirit came in power at Pentecost, enabling believers to do supernatural works. And this continued on in the early church as the Jesus movement grew.

Spiritual gifts are mentioned the first time in Scripture in Romans 1:11;12 when Paul said; "I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—**12** that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith."

- 1 Corinthians 14:1; "Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts."
- Acts 19:11 that God did extraordinary miracles (a spiritual gift), through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.
- When Paul arrived in Ephesus, he found some believers that were not filled with the Spirit. Acts 19:6 says, "When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied;" **both are spiritual gifts.**
- 1 Peter 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

A spiritual gift is a supernatural ability given to all Christians to do God's work on earth.

1 Corinthians 12

(v.1) Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.

(v. 4) There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.

(v. 5) There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.

(v.6) There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

(v. 7) A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

There are 4 primary lists of Gifts in the New Testament (Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4; 1 Peter 4)

These gifts can be categorized in 5 Manifestations

Prophetic Gifts (Prophecy; Words of Knowledge & Wisdom; Discerning of Spirits)

Power Gifts (Working of Miracles; Gifts of Healing)

Service Gifts (Giving; Mercy; Serving; Administration)

Leadership Gifts (Teaching; Exhorting; Encouraging; Leading)

Office Gifts (Apostles; Prophets; Evangelist; Pastors; Teachers)

Understanding what the Gifts are not:

- 1) Spiritual gifts are not natural talents.
- 2) Spiritual gifts are not given to the 'elite few'.
- 3) Spiritual gifts are not signs of spiritual maturity.
- 4) Spiritual gifts are not the fruits of the Spirit.
- 5) Spiritual gifts are not something to fear.

Romans 12:6-8 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; **7** if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; **8** if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

- 1) Prophecy
- 2) Serving
- 3) Teaching
- 4) Encouraging
- 5) Giving
- 6) Leadership
- 7) Mercy

Speaking in Tongues?

There are two purposes for speaking in tongues

- 1) Public Prophetic Gift of Tongues.
- 2) Private Personal Prayer Language of Tongues.

1 Corinthians 14:1-5 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. **2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.** **3** But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. **4 Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.** **5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy.** The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

v.12 **Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.** **13** For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say. **14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.**

15 So what shall I do? **I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding;** I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

What is my Next Step?

How do you discover your gifts?

- 1) Study what the Bible says about the gifts

(1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4 and 1 Peter 4; read these chapters and study them)

- 2) Ask God to show you your gifts.
- 3) Examine what you enjoy and do well.
- 4) Take a spiritual gifts test.
- 5) Do what the Holy Spirit leads you to do.

Link to spiritual gifts test - <https://mintools.com/spiritual-gifts-test.htm>