



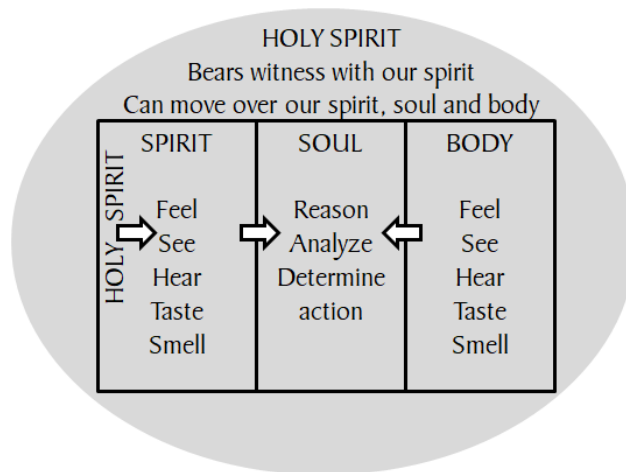
Sunday October 08, 2017
Gifts of the Spirit (Part-3) : Revelation Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Review

For instructional purposes, the nine gifts of the Spirit are commonly classified into three groupings:

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT		
REVELATION GIFTS (Gifts that reveal something)	VOCAL GIFTS (Gifts that say something)	POWER GIFTS (Gifts that do something)
Word of wisdom Word of knowledge Discerning of spirits	Tongues Interpretation of tongues Prophecy	Faith Gifts of healings Workings of miracles



Today

we cover the three gifts we have categorized as revelation gifts.

For each gift we will give a :

- Definition
- Provide Biblical Examples : Old Testament
- Provide Biblical Examples : New Testament
- Discuss some of its Operations
- How it is received
- How it is to be shared/exercised



(Pastors, we need not read the Scripture references as examples. Please quickly mention the example and move on. Please plan 10 minutes for each of the three gifts, and then spend time in ministry)

WORD OF WISDOM

Definition

It is a piece of God's divine wisdom that is supernaturally imparted to a believer that reveals the mind, purpose and will of God

- to solve a problem,
- to know what course of action to take,
- to know what is coming up in the future,
- to release creative, artistic, scientific, intelligent expression of a concept or idea.

A word is part of a sentence. This is called the gift of the word of wisdom and hence it is a small piece of God's infinite wisdom that He supernaturally imparts to us in order to address the situation at hand.

The gift of the word of wisdom is different from acquired wisdom which comes through experience and learning. Acquired wisdom is important and we are encouraged to receive the counsel of godly people (Proverbs 11:14; 15:22; 19:20; 20:18). However, the gift of the word of wisdom is supernaturally imparted by the Holy Spirit and can be released through any believer regardless of their experience or learning.

Biblical Examples : Old Testament

Joseph - interpreting dreams and providing solutions

Joseph was able to interpret Pharaoh's dream and then also provide a solution on what to do (Genesis 40:1-23 Genesis 41:1-38).

Bezalel - inspired creativity

Bezalel was able to design creative and artistic works in cutting jewels, carving wood and all other kinds of work needed to be done for the tabernacle (Exodus 31:1-5).

David - inspired architectural design

David was a shepherd, a musician, a warrior. He had no experience in architectural design. But inspired by the Spirit, David drew up the design for the temple which Solomon was to build (1 Chronicles 28:11-12,19).

Daniel - revealing and interpreting dreams and foretelling coming events

Daniel was able to reveal what Nebuchadnezzar dreamt (example of a word of knowledge) and then to interpret the dream and foretell coming events. He did this on other occasions as well. Daniel also had an angel come to bring him understanding and tell him of what was to happen.



Biblical Examples : New Testament

Wise men - warned in a dream not to go back to Herod

"Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way." (Matthew 2:12)

Joseph - warned by an angel in a dream to go to Egypt

"Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." (Matthew 2:13)

Jesus - when questioned about paying taxes

The Pharisees tried to trap Jesus by asking Him whether it was lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not. If Jesus said 'yes', then the Pharisees could say that Jesus supported the Romans and was against the Jews and they could turn the Jews against Him. If Jesus said 'no', they could hand him over to the Romans, with the reason that Jesus was leading a revolt against the Roman government. *"And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they had heard these words, they marveled, and left Him and went their way." (Matthew 22:15-22, 41-46)*

Paul - direction to go into Macedonia

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them." (Acts 16:9-10)

Paul - declaring outcome when ship caught in a storm

"Now when neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest beat on us, all hope that we would be saved was finally given up. 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. And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.' Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me. However, we must run aground on a certain island." (Acts 27:20-26)

Operations

Here are a few areas of application where the gift of the word of wisdom can be useful. This is not a complete list.

- ✓ Counseling :
- ✓ Ministry of the Word :



- ✓ Interpreting dreams :
- ✓ Solving business/workplace problems :
- ✓ Situations of life :
- ✓ Deciding about future :
- ✓ Coming up with a design in any field :
- ✓ Creating a solution in any field :
- ✓ Knowing how markets are going to change :

How A Word of Wisdom Is Received

The Holy Spirit can use any of our spirit senses to communicate a word of wisdom to us. Here is a short list. Keep in mind that many of these (and other ways) could work in combination and you need to put these together and communicate clearly what you are receiving.

A quickening of Scripture

The Holy Spirit can quicken a verse or portion of Scripture and bring out insights that you have not seen before and make it relevant to the situation that needs to be addressed.

A knowing inside

Through your spirit sense of hearing, the Holy Spirit imparts a word, a sentence or a 'download' of a large amount of information into your spirit. You just know and you begin to speak.

You see a word, words or sentences

There are times the Holy Spirit gives you a word or a series of words or sentences. You 'see' these words through the eyes of your spirit. For example, when praying over a person you may see the words 'nursing' concerning their future or area of study that they should prepare for.

Inspired, unpremeditated speaking

There could be times you start speaking and you sense an inspiration and you start speaking and saying things that you have not previously thought of. Thoughts and ideas keep coming as you keep speaking and once it is all done, you just revealed the mind of God for the situation or revealed the meaning of a dream.

Dreams or visions

Words of wisdom can also be revealed through dreams or visions at night. You wake up and realize you have had a dream where you receive clear instruction on what God wants you to do or a solution to a problem. Angels also appear in dreams bringing messages.

Angel messengers

We see angels appearing to Daniel, Joseph, and Paul bringing messages on what to do, how to escape or come out of trouble.



How To Share A Word of Wisdom

Do not force, compel or demand action

When sharing a word of wisdom to someone else that requires them to take a course of action (example about their future, about their education, career, etc.) communicate it to them with humility and submission, and then encourage them to seek God personally, and do whatever God directs them to do. *Do not force, compel or demand that they do what you have shared with them.*

Clarify and encourage perseverance and diligence that is required

A word of wisdom must be executed with wisdom, diligence and hard work. So even when you submit a word of wisdom that will solve a problem, *encourage people to follow through, persevere and work at it.* Just because you released a word of wisdom from God to solve their problem, does not imply that they can be reckless, lazy and just expect things to fall in place without them working on things.

No pressure to convince others to agree

Sometimes a word of wisdom would need collective approval or agreement from several others on a team, or approval from those in authority over you. Respect others involvement in the matter. Let God move on their hearts to recognize that what you have shared is a good solution or the right course of action. *You have done your part in releasing what you received. Do not feel pressured or responsible for convincing others.* Do not judge, bad-mouth or speak ill of others if they do not take on what you communicated.

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

Definition

It is a supernatural impartation of a piece of divine knowledge that reveals facts of things past or present. A word of knowledge

- serves to let the individual (or individuals) know that God knows them personally and loves them deeply.
- informs us about what God is doing. Example a word of knowledge about healing reveals the condition (or conditions) God is healing at the moment.
- reveals problems or situations from the past that God is addressing to resolve, heal, etc.

A word is part of a sentence. This is called the gift of the word of knowledge and hence it is a small piece of God's infinite knowledge that He supernaturally imparts to us in order to accomplish a specific purpose.

The gift of the word of knowledge is not dependent on any information you already know. It is not natural, acquired information or knowledge.



Biblical Examples : Old Testament

Samuel and Saul's donkeys.

Saul had spent a couple of days searching for his father's lost donkeys. He finally decides to go to a seer to get help and comes to Samuel. Samuel informs Saul *"But as for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not be anxious about them, for they have been found."* (1 Samuel 9:1-20)

Elisha and Gehazi

Gehazi, Elisha's servant lied to Naaman and got a lot of goods from Naaman for himself and hid them in his home. *"Now he went in and stood before his master. Elisha said to him, "Where did you go, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant did not go anywhere." Then he said to him, "Did not my heart go with you when the man turned back from his chariot to meet you? Is it time to receive money and to receive clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male and female servants? Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever." And he went out from his presence leprous, as white as snow."* (2 Kings 5:25-27)

Elisha revealing the battle plans of the king of Syria

"Now the king of Syria was making war against Israel; and he consulted with his servants, saying, "My camp will be in such and such a place." And the man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are coming down there." Then the king of Israel sent someone to the place of which the man of God had told him. Thus he warned him, and he was watchful there, not just once or twice. Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was greatly troubled by this thing; and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel?" And one of his servants said, "None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom." (2 Kings 6:8-12)

Daniel revealing king's dreams

Daniel 2:16-30

Biblical Examples : New Testament

Jesus meeting Nathanael

"Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" (John 1:47-49)

Jesus revealing a bit of the Samaritan woman's past

(John 4:15-19,28,29)



Jesus sending his disciples to bring a donkey

"When He had said this, He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. And it came to pass, when He drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, that He sent two of His disciples, saying, "Go into the village opposite you, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose it and bring it here. And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you loosing it?' thus you shall say to him, 'Because the Lord has need of it.' " So those who were sent went their way and found it just as He had said to them." (Luke 19:28-32)

Peter, Ananias and Sapphira

Peter knew the amount at which they sold the land and that they had held back a part of the money (Acts 5:1-11)

Ananias sent to minister to Saul

The Lord revealed to Ananias Saul's address and the vision Saul had seen. *"Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." 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. 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." (Acts 9:10-12)*

Operations

Here are a few areas of application where the gift of the word of knowledge can be useful. This is not a complete list.

- ✓ Letting people feel known and loved by God
- ✓ Helping solve problems (finding what is lost, revealing what is causing the loss, example the people who are embezzling money)
- ✓ Bringing conviction and repentance by lovingly addressing areas of sin and compromise
- ✓ Revealing something that happened in the past that is affecting their present
- ✓ Revealing what God is doing, when ministered along with other gifts, e.g. gifts of healing, working of miracles

How A Word of Knowledge Is Received

The Holy Spirit can use any of our spirit senses to communicate a word of knowledge to us. Here are some of the most common ways believers experience receiving words of knowledge. God may use new and creative ways to speak to you. The Holy Spirit can also use external things to speak a word of knowledge to us. Keep in mind that many of these (and other ways) could work in combination and you need to put these together and communicate clearly what you are receiving.



Hearing or seeing words, sentences or information

You may see a word, words or sentences coming up from your spirit into your mind. Sometimes these may even seem to be external - words that you may see 'upon' a person, or 'written' on their face, or behind them, etc. You may 'hear' a word or sentence or just receive information coming out of your spirit.

An inner impression

You may receive something through your spirit sense of feeling about a particular physical condition or a situation in life (e.g. financial problem, divorce, suicide, etc.).

Pictures and images

You may get a picture or a sequence of pictures or even a streaming visual (like a movie) revealing various physical conditions God wants to heal or situations God wants to address. For example you may see a body part (e.g. heart, elbow, wrist, neck) or you may see a part of an outline of a body highlighted, etc. You may see any other object, place or life situation (e.g. office representing workplace, field, car accident, etc.)

Physical sensations or experience

You may have a sharp pain in some part of your body or a sensation (tingling, burning, throbbing, etc.). This is just God alerting to you that He is healing problems in that part of the body. Be careful that your feeling is not caused by a condition in your own body. For instance, if you often have pain in your left ear, you would not give that as a word of knowledge even if you get that pain during a meeting.

Some ministers share how at times their own physical body momentarily experiences the same physical ailment that another person has. e.g. a growth may momentarily appear on a part of their body and it then disappears, or their vision temporarily blurs or their ear temporarily closes up. They then call out these conditions in people they are ministering to.

Inspired utterance

While talking or praying or standing with someone, unpremeditated words may tumble out of your mouth relating to a life situation, problem or even health conditions.

Dreams and visions

You may have a dream or vision in which you see yourself saying or doing things, God ministering to certain kinds of people, etc. This is another way God sets you up to actually do what you saw in your dream or night vision.

Angel messengers

Angels can also bring us specific information from God.

"But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." (Acts 5:19-20)



"Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert." (Act 8:26)

Personal experience or situation

There are times God reminds you about your own personal experience or about another individual you know and uses that to give you information about the person you are ministering to.

Inspired writing

You may be inspired as you write, journal (1 Chronicles 28:9)

Divine setups

God can use an unusual situation, a sign post or bill board that you see, a car sticker that has a message, etc. to give you information.

New, personal and creative ways

It is impossible to put God in a box of only a few ways which He can speak. Always be open to new ways that He is speaking to you.

How To Share A Word Of Knowledge

How we say what we say is also important. Here are some practical guidelines in sharing a word of knowledge.

Be loving and gentle in what you share

Let people be comfortable, feel loved and drawn into meeting Jesus, rather than being frightened, intimidated or even put off, when you approach them with a word of knowledge. So instead of saying something like "God just showed me that you have a problem in your lower back", you can ask them lovingly "does your lower back hurt?". Once they say "yes", you can then offer to pray for them. Once they are healed, they are very likely to ask you how did you know. That would be a great time to talk to them about Jesus.

Be clear and specific as what is being revealed to you

The more specific the word, the more it builds faith in you and in the other person. As you are speaking, keep praying, asking God for more details and keep watching.

Validate whenever possible

You can ask the person if what you have shared is correct. In a gathering you can ask for a show of hands as an indication if one or more people relate to what you have shared. Keep in mind that sometimes people may feel shy or afraid and may not respond. Don't be discouraged if no one responds. Be faithful in stepping out.



Take risks out of love for people

Giving words of knowledge is really taking a risk. But do it anyway. Don't let fear of people, intimidation or fear of failure hold you back. Do everything out of love.

It's ok to make mistakes. Learn and keep pressing in.

Remember we are all learning to hear from the Holy Spirit and we will make mistakes. Keep learning. Keep pressing in for more accuracy, more details.

DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

Definition

The ability to supernaturally see (perceive, know, sense) either into the spirits of people or into the spirit realm

- to determine what is of God and what is not of God
- to discern the spirits of people, their motives and intents
- to see what the Lord is doing, activity of angels, etc.
- to see what satan is scheming and doing, what kinds of spirits are troubling a person, etc.

The gift of the discerning of spirits is different from spiritual discernment. Spiritual discernment like wisdom comes through spiritual maturity and one's experience with God. However, the gift of the discerning of spirits is given at a particular point in time to perceive into the spirit realm. The gift of the discerning of spirits is available to all believers regardless of their spiritual maturity.

Biblical Examples : Old Testament

Elisha's servant's eyes opened to see

"And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha." (2 Kings 6:15-17)

Biblical Examples : New Testament

Jesus knowing their thoughts

When Jesus healed the paralytic (Matthew 9:1-7) the Scripture records: *"But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?" (vs 4)*



Jesus and Peter - identifying the source of information

The Lord Jesus identified the real source of Peter's information in his speaking. In one instant Peter received revelation from the Father in heaven on who Jesus is (Matthew 16:16-17), and in another instant Peter was speaking what the devil wanted dissuading Jesus from going to the Cross (Matthew 16:22-23).

Jesus knowing satan's schemes

The Lord Jesus knew what the devil was planning to do in the spirit realm. He prayed for Peter and warned him in advance (Luke 22:31-32).

Operations

Here are a few areas of application where the gift of the discerning of spirits can be useful. This is not a complete list.

- ✓ Recognizing the real source of the problem when ministering to people
 - A familiar spirit is a spirit that has become "familiar" with a person, a place or a thing. As a result they have taken up "residence" there and exert their influence. In a person, the spirits affect lifestyle, moods, thought patterns, behavioral patterns and prevent change in that person's life. Deliverance needs to take place and the entry points have to be closed by repentance (not providing opportunities, choosing an opposite lifestyle, etc.)
- ✓ Recognizing true and false ministers, spirit of truth and spirit of errors in teaching
- ✓ Recognizing what God is doing in the spirit realm and positioning yourself accordingly
- ✓ Recognizing satan's plans and counteracting them through prayer and warfare

How Discerning Of spirits Is Received

The Holy Spirit can use any of our spirit senses release the gift of the discerning of spirits. Here are some ways.



A check in your spirit

A sense of joy and fellowship in the spirit

A knowing that a certain kind of spirit is operating

A word or words about different kinds of spirits operating

A visual that shows what is happening in the spirit realm

A sudden awareness of the spirit realm

Eyes of your spirit opened to see what is happening

Transportation in the spirit realm

Physical feeling in the hand

Through the spirit sense of smell and taste

As we mentioned in an earlier chapter, God will cause you to recognize a particular taste/smell and then give you specific understanding on what He is communicating. **Pleasant tastes/smells** can be used to indicate God's pleasure in what we are doing, God is present, God's anointing is at work, God is moving to bring healing, God moving to bring comfort, God is moving to meet a certain kind of need, etc. **Unpleasant tastes/smells** can be a warning to indicate to you to be careful of what is happening (e.g. a false doctrine being preached, a false prophet deceiving the people, demonic power, seducing spirits, unclean spirits at work, etc.), for you to get out of the situation (e.g. leave now, you don't need to be here, do not interact with these people, etc.).

How To Use Or Release What Is Received Through Discerning Of Spirits

Usually the gift of the discerning of spirits will require you to take action, do something in response to what the Holy Spirit is revealing to you.

You may need to avoid further interaction with the people you've been alerted to

You may need to walk away from being in the company of certain people

You may have to minister deliverance to the individual

You may need to take authority over the kinds of spirits operating

You may need to stop something from progressing further

IN LIFE GROUPS THIS WEEK

Discuss each of the three revelation gifts going through the sermon notes.



Plan to keep about 20 minutes of your time in trying to exercise these gifts in your life group as you pray and minister to one another. Give permission for people to make mistakes. It is ok to make mistakes. We are all trying to learn to listen to the Spirit of God.

Ministry Time



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday October 08, 2017
Gifts of the Spirit (Part-3) : Revelation Gifts

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons. Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *1 Corinthians 12:1-11*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Discuss these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group study.

Discuss each of the three revelation gifts going through the sermon notes.

Plan to keep about 20 minutes of your time in trying to exercise these gifts in your life group as you pray and minister to one another. Give permission for people to make mistakes. It is ok to make mistakes. We are all trying to learn to listen to the Spirit of God.

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two main learning today and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Within the group, feel free to share areas of emotional healing that may be needed. (Keep all matters confidential). Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey



Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

Close by thanking God together.