



Sunday November 05, 2017
Gifts of the Spirit (Part-6) : Developing in the Gifts of the Spirit

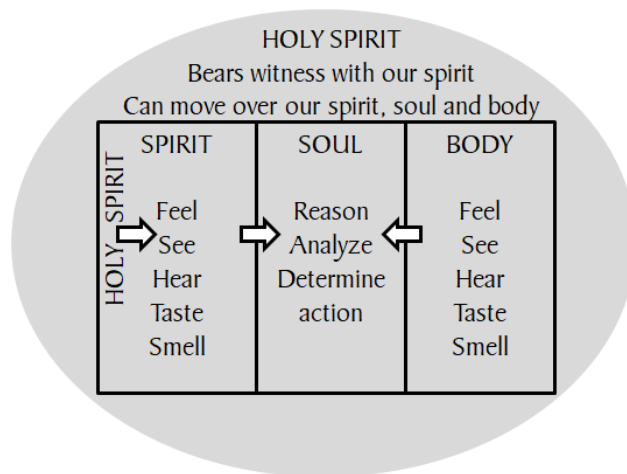
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
 Hebrews 2:1-4

Review

Please review a few key points from earlier messages in this series Part 1-5.

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 share some practical guidelines on how we can develop in the release of the gifts of the Spirit.

PRACTICAL STEPS TO DEVELOP DAILY IN THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Always be motivated by love

1 Corinthians 12:31

But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.



1 Corinthians 14:1

1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

Do everything out of love for people and love for God. Walk in love, desire spiritual gifts, step out in faith.

Do not attempt to flow in the gifts of the Spirit out of wrong motivations, e.g. need for recognition, need to self-affirmation, pride, competition with others, etc.

Earnestly desire the gifts of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:31

But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 14:1,12,39,40

1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

12 Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.

39 Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.

40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

excel = superabound, be in excess, abundance, enough and more

We desire to be a church where every believer is touching people by manifesting the gifts of the Spirit. Desire the gifts of the spirit in everyday life. Remember the gifts of the Spirit can be manifested anywhere at any time: in your home, in your school/college/workplace, any time you are ministering to people. Desire for the manifestations of the Spirit. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to release all of the gifts. If you sense specific gifts are needed to meet a specific need, then desire those specific gifts of the Spirit.

Stir up the gifts of God in you

1 Timothy 4:14

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.

2 Timothy 1:6-7

6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Gifts lie dormant because of slothfulness, fear/doubt, neglect, etc.

Stir up the gifts of God in you by praying in tongues.



Stay strong in your spiritual life all the time. You do this by maintaining a consistent life of communion and intimacy with God through being in His Word, prayer, and personal obedience

Stay tuned in

Galatians 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

"If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit." (English Standard Version)

Always walk in a manner that you are tuned in to the Spirit. Stay alert, tuned in and listening to the Holy Spirit. Expect the Spirit to speak, move on you, lead you, guide you, etc.

Stay calm and rested

Isaiah 11:2

The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Numbers 11:25-26

25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again.

26 But two men had remained in the camp: the name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them. Now they were among those listed, but who had not gone out to the tabernacle; yet they prophesied in the camp.

rest, rested Hebrew 'nuach' = to rest, remain, be quiet, to settle down, to dwell

One term used to refer to the moving of the Spirit upon people is 'rest'. For the Holy Spirit to rest upon us, practically, it is important for us to be 'rested', in a state of calm and quietness in our spirit before God, even if there is a lot of noise and disturbance around us. Guard your mind against all distractions, disturbances and things that may agitate you. Stay calm and rested in your spirit.

Step out boldly on the Spirit's promptings

Acts 11:12

Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house.

Pick up what the Spirit is saying through your spirit senses, and other ways He speaks to you. Commune with the Spirit to what you identify what He wants you to do. Then yield to what the Holy Spirit is leading you to do. Speak or act as He instructs. Release the word. Minister to the individual. Usually when you step out on the first few instructions and as you minister, the Holy Spirit will give you more directives. Keep flowing and releasing the gifts of the Spirit as He desires.



Take risks

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

19 Do not quench the Spirit.

20 Do not despise prophecies.

21 Test all things; hold fast what is good.

quench = extinguish

The more you are willing to step out, take risks, the more you make yourself available to the Holy Spirit and the more manifestations you will see. Be willing to "put reason aside" (get your head out of the way), when you recognize the leading or prompting of the Holy Spirit to say or do something. Not everything that the Holy Spirit says will fit into our reason or logic. This is where you step out and take a risk.

Remember it is not about your reputation. It is about glorifying God and about serving people. be dead to yourself. You are not trying to get something for yourself by ministering in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. You are here only to glorify God and serve people.

Practice, practice, practice

2 Timothy 2:21

Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

As vessels, we need to be made useful and prepared or made ready. Part of becoming useful and being readied is to get equipped and trained. The gifts come from God. However, we can train, mature and perfect our ability to work together with the Holy Spirit to manifest His power in better and greater ways. Even if you make mistakes, fumble, just don't quit. Keep desiring and keep stepping out - in other words, keep practicing.

OTHER FACTORS THAT WILL HELP YOUR EXPRESSION OF THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Learn from every experience

Reflect. Document. Learn from both your successes and failures. Keep building on your successes and avoid earlier mistakes.

Increase in faith

Romans 12:6

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;



Galatians 3:5

Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

The gifts are released by faith. You build faith by meditating in the Word, hearing more stories of how God is working through other people, and being around people who are pursuing God to manifest in supernatural ways. Keep your faith built up. Meditate and declare God's Word on His anointing, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the gifts of the Spirit.

Pray with fasting

The more you pray the more you hear from God and the more detail you hear. New wineskin that contains new wine does not come without fasting and prayer.

Receive impartation

Romans 1:11

For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established—

1 Timothy 4:14

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.

The gifts of God come from God. He is the only Source. "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven." (John 3:27). However God uses people to activate (get us started), and to impart more grace and anointing on existing gifts in our lives. Receiving activation or impartation adds to the strength and dimensions of the work of the Holy Spirit in your life. This can happen through the laying on of hands and prayer, by receiving through their ministry (listening to their preaching, reading their books, etc.) and by association (working closely with them).

Grow in your function

Every believer has a function for which God gives grace and accompanying gifts. Gifts empower membership functions and ministry offices. As you grow in your function, you will see the grace and gifting of God also grow on your life.

HINDRANCES TO MOVING IN THE GIFTS



Ignorance and Lack of proper teaching

Neglect

Sense of unworthiness

Don't let the flesh or the devil tell you that you cannot manifest the gifts of the Spirit. Usually, when the devil is not around, the flesh is faithful to carry on his work by telling us that we are not worthy!

Fear, Doubt, Unbelief

Fear of failure, Fear of man, Doubt

Reasoning

Our greatest hindrances to moving in the gifts are our emotions, our opinions, and our reasoning.

RELEASING THE GIFTS IN SMALL-GROUP AND CORPORATE SETTINGS

1. Use the gifts for edification, not for destruction or condemnation! Always build people up. Don't try to use gifts to correct, condemn or put people down (1 Corinthians 14:5,12,16,17).
2. Let everyone participate – possible in cell groups (1 Corinthians 14:26)
3. Follow instructions given by the small group leaders (1 Corinthians 14:27,28)
4. Allow yourself to be judged and corrected. Similarly, if someone makes a mistake, correct in love.
5. Do everything peacefully and in order (1 Corinthians 14:33,40)



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday November 05, 2017
Gifts of the Spirit (Part-6) : Developing in the Gifts of the Spirit

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: *Hebrews 2:1-4*

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.

We mentioned several ways to develop in the gifts of the Spirit. Review and discuss how you would employ these practically on a day-to-day basis:

- 1, Always be motivated by love*
- 2, Earnestly desire the gifts of the Spirit*
- 3, Stir up the gifts of God in you*
- 4, Stay tuned in*
- 5, Stay calm and rested*
- 6, Step out boldly on the Spirit's promptings*
- 7, Take risks*
- 8, Practice, practice, practice*



Discuss how you can practice these in your life group each time you meet. Agree together on some guidelines you will have and how you can create a supportive environment in your life group to help each other develop in the gifts of the Spirit.

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.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>