



Sunday November 19, 2017
Gifts of the Spirit (Part-8) : Being A Channel of the Spirit's Power

INSIGHTS ON THE FLOW OF HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER

The Lord Jesus carried out His earthly ministry through the power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:14,18-19, Acts 10:38, Matthew 12:28, Romans 1:4). We have covered this in chapter one. The Greek word used often to refer to the power of the Holy Spirit is '*dunamis*' meaning force; specifically miraculous power, ability, might, strength. We also stated in chapter one that the Lord Jesus promised His disciples that they would receive this same Holy Spirit power (Acts 1:8) and this is available to all who would believe in Him (Acts 2:38-39). So every believer is a channel, a conduit, a dispenser of the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here are some insights on the flow of the power of the Holy Spirit that will help us learn to release the Spirit's power:

Mark 5:24-34

24 So Jesus went with him, and a great multitude followed Him and thronged Him.
25 Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years,
26 and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse.
27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.
28 For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."
29 Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction.
30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"
31 But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' "
32 And He looked around to see her who had done this thing.
33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.
34 And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

#1, The Holy Spirit releases His power to flow out of us into others effecting a change.

Mark 5:30

And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"



Expect the power of the Holy Spirit to flow out of you (through you). You are a channel of the power of the Holy Spirit.

#2, The Spirit of God uses the spoken word, the laying on of hands, and even material substances (cloth, oil, etc.) as points of contact for His power to be "transmitted"

Mark 5:27

When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.

Luke 6:19

And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all.

Acts 19:11-12

**11 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.**

1 Samuel 16:13

Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

John 6:63 (Good News Bible)

What gives life is God's Spirit; human power is of no use at all. The words I have spoken to you bring God's life-giving Spirit.

John 20:22

And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Have faith that when you speak a word in faith, touch someone in faith, blow on them in faith or use some of these material points of contact in faith, that the power of the Holy Spirit is administered through those vehicles to people.

#3, The flow of the Spirit's power is recognizable (to the human spirit) and may even be felt by our five senses.

Mark 5:30

And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"



There will be times when you will know (be aware) in your spirit of the flow of the Spirit's power out through you. Sometimes you may even have unusual physical feelings or sensations that make you aware that Holy Spirit's power is flowing out through you. This is good and you must minister along with what you are recognizing/sensing.

There are times when the person being ministered to may also recognize in their spirit or may even have unusual physical feelings or sensations (warmth, tingling, burning, a blanket coming over, freshness, lightness, etc.). Just encourage them to receive and thank the Lord for what He is doing.

#4, The Holy Spirit releases His power in response to faith.

Mark 5:34

And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

We must minister in faith and people must receive in faith.

Faith is believing that the work is done (or has been) done. Faith settles the matter.

We do recognize that there are times God moves sovereignly independent of our faith. We welcome these works of God. However, the norm is that God releases His power in response to our faith.

#5, The power of the Holy Spirit results in signs and wonders, healings, miracles, deliverances.

Expect mighty signs, wonders, miracles, healings and deliverances from demonic power to take place through the power of the Holy Spirit being released through you.

#6, The Holy Spirit can envelope an entire space (area) with His power.

Luke 5:17

Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

People who come into such an 'atmosphere', a space (or area) that has been enveloped or filled with the power of the Spirit can experience a supernatural touch of the Lord, normally through exercising faith in God. In Luke chapter 5, the power ('*dunamis*') of the Lord was present in that house to heal the people. It was the friends of the paralyzed man who came in faith, who tapped into the power by faith and saw their friend healed that day.

#7, Distance is not a limiting factor in the release of the Spirit's power



We have examples of Jesus healing the Centurion's servant (Matthew 8:8) or the Canaanite woman's daughter (Matthew 15:22,28) from a distance.

You can be in a certain place, but release the power of the Spirit to impact a person or situation in any other place.

#8, Worship (expressed through song, music, etc.) brings an increased manifestation of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

2 Kings 3:15

But now bring me a musician." Then it happened, when the musician played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him.

When three kings approached the prophet Elisha to hear what God would speak to them, Elisha asked for a musician. We would be right to assume that the musician played 'unto the Lord'. He played something that helped Elisha worship and connect with the Lord. Then the 'hand of the LORD', the empowering of the Holy Spirit came on Elisha and he prophesied.

Similarly, when we feel the need to we can step into worship first, by singing, or speaking words of love, praise, adoration, exaltation and declaration. When possible we can have music to help us worship. This positions us to experience a stirring or even an increased manifestation of the power of the Holy Spirit.

RELEASING THE FLOW OF THE SPIRIT'S POWER

John 7:38-39

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

The presence and the power of the Holy Spirit flows out of your spirit. Here are three simple 'tips' on how to let the power of God flow through you:

#1, Increase the capacity of your spirit

Ephesians 3:16

that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might ('dunamis') through His Spirit in the inner man,

The resurrection power - the power that raised Jesus from the dead - of God's Spirit is available (Ephesians 1:19-20) for all of us who believe. However we need to increase in the capacity of our inner man to deliver/administer/release that power to people.



We need to continually increase in power ('*dunamis*') by His Spirit in our inner man. Let your inner man increase in power.

In order to increase in power we must also increase the capacity of our spirit to carry and deliver more of the Spirit's power. Build up your spirit through the Word and prayer. Spend time meditating in the Word of God. The Word of God is full of power. Spend time praying in tongues. This 'powers up' or 'charges up' your inner man.

Imagine a huge reservoir, representing an unlimited supply of water. If we plug in to this huge reservoir with a small pipe, we will get a small trickle of water. However, if we connect to this reservoir with a large pipe we can have huge torrents of water flowing through that is more powerful and can do much more. The 'pipe' is our spirit, the capacity of our inner-man to carry/administer/release Holy Spirit's power.

#2, Clear out blockages in your soul

As vessels of honor we keep our lives free from sin.

We must also clear out all kinds of blockages in our soul that can hinder us from freely administering the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here are some groups of related soul blockages that hinder us from administering the Spirit's power:

Condemnation related : fear, condemnation, unworthiness, rejection, self-imposed qualifiers, self-imposed limitations, etc.

Offense related : unforgiveness, bitterness, hurts, offenses, prejudices, etc.

Self related : envy, jealousy, competition, pride, selfish-ambitions, etc.

Disturbance related : preoccupations of the mind, disturbances, distractions, turmoil, etc.

Keep your heart and mind clean and pure.

Let your soul be clean, clear and still to be able to release from your spirit.

Calm and quiet your mind.

#3, Out of your position in God, release the Spirit's power by 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?

Knowing who you are in Christ and what He desires to release through you by His Spirit, confidently and through faith release the power of the Spirit out of your spirit. As we have mentioned earlier, you can release the Spirit's power through a spoken word, through touch, through prayer cloths, through anointing with oil, through blowing, and so on.



For example, if you plan to lift a table, you position yourself next to it, get a grip on it, and then focus the strength/energy of your muscles and momentarily exert the required energy to lift it. Similarly, knowing your position in Christ, you focus your faith towards what needs to be accomplished (e.g. a sick person needing healing), and then you exert (release) by faith the Spirit's power to that person.

If the power of the Spirit can be 'pulled' by faith (Mark 5:30,34), it can also be 'pushed' by faith.

If the power of the Spirit can be 'received' by faith (Galatians 3:2,14), it can also be 'released' by faith (Galatians 3:5).

Whatever we have in Him, in the spirit, we can release by faith. To release is to give.

We can release the power of the Spirit.

We can release the love of the Spirit.

We can release the joy of the Spirit.

We can release the peace of the Spirit.

We can release the strength of the Spirit.

We can release the wisdom of the Spirit.

We can release the revelation of the Spirit.

THE PURPOSE OF POWER

The reason we are desiring to manifest the power of God is to glorify Jesus (John 16:14), to bear witness to His name so people can be saved (Acts 1:8) and to have the needs of people met so they can personally experience God's love and compassion (Matthew 14:14).

There is a great price to pay to be an instrument that God can use to manifest His power on the earth. Very few take this road. However, we must walk this path.

"The disciple should not be above His Master, but he shall be like his Master! But if we are to be like Him in power, we must also be like Him in holiness, consecration, meekness, and compassion. We must be like Him in prayer and fellowship with the Father. We must be like Him in faith. We must be like Him in fasting and self-denial. If it were possible for the servant to be like Him in power without paying the price He paid, then the servant would be above his Lord." – Evangelist A.A. Allen (1911-70), was greatly used by the Lord to work mighty healings and miracles.



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday November 19, 2017
Gifts of the Spirit (Part-8) : Being A Channel of the Spirit's Power

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 passage: *Mark 5:24-34*

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 discussion.

#1, Review the 8 statements that were presented about the flow of the power of the Holy Spirit. Discuss one or more of these statements sharing what 'caught your attention' as we uncovered these truths.

#2, We presented three simple guidelines on releasing the Spirit's power. Discuss how you would work on these/apply these so you can minister more effectively:

(A) Increase the capacity of your spirit

(B) Clear out blockages in your soul

(C) Out of your position in God, release the Spirit's power by faith



If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two main learnings 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.