

THEME: THE HOLY SPIRIT

TOPIC: THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES POWER AND GIFTS TO HIS FOLLOWERS.

TEXT: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10; EPHESIANS 4:7-13; ISAIAH 11:2-3; ROMANS 12:3-6.

INTRODUCTION

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are unique skills and abilities given by the Holy Spirit to faithful followers of Christ to serve God for the common benefit of his people, the church. Paul mentioned the following spiritual gifts; wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues.

The gifts of the Spirit are simply God empowering faithful Christians to do what He has called us to do. It's stated in 2 Peter 1:3, "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." The gifts of the Holy Spirit are part of "everything we need" to accomplish His plans for our lives.

1. God has Given You His Indwelling Spirit.

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth....." **John 14:16-17**

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". **Acts 1:8**

"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit". **Acts 2:38**

Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you? God will bring ruin upon anyone who ruins this temple..... **1 Corinthians 3:16-17**

Q: How will you explain the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to an unchurched person?

2. God has Given You Spiritual Power.

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs..... **Ephesians 5:18-19**

But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.....**Romans 8:10-11**

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly **Acts 4:31**

Q: Why is the believer given Spiritual Power by the Holy Spirit?

3. God has Given You A Spiritual Gift.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. **1**

Corinthians 12:4-7

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. – **1 Peter 4:10**

- a. Pray about your gift or gifts.
- b. Begin to ask your friends and family members – about God gifts recognised in you.
- c. Take a personal Spiritual Gifts Inventory.
- d. Start using your spiritual gift in the church and in other situations.

Q: How do you take inventory of the Spiritual gifts that is in operation in your life and within your small group?

Conclusion

The gifts of the Spirit were given “for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect [complete, mature] man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ . . . speaking the truth in love, [that we] may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ” (Ephesians 4:12–13, 15).

In effect the Holy Spirit gives power and gifts to believers:

- To manifest God's presence in the body of Christ on earth
- To build unity in the church
- To remind us of our dependence upon one another
- To reveal the living God to unbelievers
- To bring glory to God