



## How Do You Develop Your Gifts? Filled with the Holy Spirit

Grace BFC Bible Study Hour – January 20, 2019

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### Part 1: the Holy Spirit's Mission – (15 minute devotional)

Last 2 weeks – looked at God the Father and Jesus Christ ... Today consider the Holy Spirit

#### - John 14:15-22, 25-27

<sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will obey what I command. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you....

<sup>25</sup> "All this I have spoken while still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

#### - John 15: 26-27

<sup>26</sup> "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. <sup>27</sup> And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

#### - John 16:7-15

<sup>7</sup> But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

<sup>12</sup> "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. <sup>13</sup> But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <sup>14</sup> He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. <sup>15</sup> All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

#### - Acts 1:8

<sup>8</sup> 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 2: Disciples wait, pray for H.S., at Pentecost H.S. comes in power! And is promised to us as well!

#### - Acts 2:38-39

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, "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. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

## **Part 2: How Do You Develop Your Gifts? Filled with the Holy Spirit (30+ minute main talk)**

### **Intro: What are Spiritual Gifts?**

#### **1) What are “Spiritual Gifts”?**

##### **- “Gift”**

- Give by someone
- Giver chooses what to give
- Receiver gets for free

##### **- “Spiritual”**

- Dealing with God
- In this case – gifts given by the Holy Spirit for purposes to deal with God / His Kingdom

##### **- Implications:**

- God gives spiritual gifts to us, at his choosing, not based on anything about us
- The gifts are not simply natural abilities, but things of a spiritual nature
- I do not earn them, or demand them, but rather I accept and use them

#### **Three main passages on “Spiritual Gifts”** (2 use the term, the 3rd lists several of the same gifts)

##### **- I Corinthians 12**

- Begins with “Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.”
- Contains 2 lists of gifts, and is part of several chapters on how to use / no use the gifts

##### **- Romans 12:3-8**

- Encouraging us to use the gifts God has given
- Including several of the same images as I Corinthians to describe their place in the body

##### **- Ephesians 4: 11-16**

- Shows us how people with certain gifts should use those in the church
- Larger context, esp. 4:1-10, stresses similar themes to context of Rom. 12 and I Cor. 12

**These three passages contain 4 lists of gifts, namely:**

<b>Ephesians 4: 11</b>	<b>Romans 12: 6-8</b>	<b>I Corinthians 12: 8-10</b>	<b>I Corinthians 12: 28-30</b>
Apostles			Apostles
Prophets	Prophecy	Prophecy	Prophets
Evangelists			
Pastor – teachers*	Teaching		Teachers
	Leading		
	Giving		
	Encouraging		
	Showing mercy		
	Serving		Helps
			Administrations
* can be translated as		A word of wisdom	
1 gift: Pastor-Teacher		A word of knowledge	
Or 2: Pastor, Teacher		Faith	
		Healings	Healings
		Workings of miracles	Miracles
		Distinguishing of spirits	
		Speak in kinds of tongues	Speak in kinds of tongues
		Interpretation of tongues	Interpret (tongues)

**Observations:**

- Some similarities, but most items different on each list
- Some potentially one time, or at least in a moment each time (heal, word of knowledge..) while some more positional / ongoing (apostle, pastor), or less formal ongoing (serving)
- Some clearly ‘need’ spirit (heal, tongue, prophecy, miracle) others mundane (serve, give)
- Many are things we are all called to do (evangelism, service, giving...)

**Implications:**

- Can be ‘gifted’ for a moment or a lifetime, in obvious or less obvious ways
- Even in things we all are called to be involved in some will be especially gifted
- Several lists, all different ... likely not all inclusive, even when combined
- While all we have and can do is a gift of God, I would not want to say every talent is a spiritual gift ... yet, I would also not want to limit the list to just these – so what is deciding factor? – Spirit enables, and for the purpose of spiritual gifts ...
- So what is that purpose?

## 2) Why does God give “Spiritual Gifts”?

### - Read Romans 12:1, 3-8 (commenting as we go)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship...

- Entire chapter based on God’s mercy, and giving self to serve God ...
- Thus spiritual gifts also given of God’s mercy, and be used as worship to God

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

- Key to serving God, and using gifts – Humility (not allow gifts to make proud!)

<sup>4</sup> Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

- One body ... gifts function as parts of body – each different, each needed, and all work together for the benefit of the one body

<sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. <sup>7</sup> If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

- We each have gifts (not only some of us, since we are all in the body by definition of being in Christ, thus all have a function, and all have the gifts to do that function! ... more soon)
- Gifts from God, given as He has seen fit
- We are each to use our gift – not let it sit, not use someone else’s gift ... but use our gift!
- And do it with the right attitude – generously, cheerfully, etc.

### - Read I Corinthians 12:1, 4-31 (commenting as we go)

Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant...

<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

- One Spirit gives each one of the different gifts, we should expect them to be different, yet all come from, point to, acknowledge the same God and Jesus Christ as Lord

<sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

- Again stresses he gives them all ... FOR THE COMMON GOOD – not for fun, or for each of us as one, or what we can each accomplish alone ... but for a common good

<sup>12</sup> The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

- Also uses body image – one body, not many – again not place to boast

<sup>14</sup> Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. <sup>19</sup> If they were all one part, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

- We are who God made us to be – should not want to be another part, instead be our part

<sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, <sup>24</sup> while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

- Some tempted to boast, others tempted to think they are unimportant – yet God especially values and protects those who have more modest roles

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup> And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> But eagerly desire the greater gifts.

- One body – which all are part of it
- We are to want greater gifts ... why?
  - not because they are 'better' or more godly, they are all equal
  - not because we are more, or less worthy to have them – God gives as He pleases
  - I read this to say we should seek to be used by God in greater and greater ways, we should not sit back satisfied if God uses us to heal someone, or give a serve a few people ... We should go back to God and say we are willing, even eager to be used in greater ways ... As God would choose and enable
  
  - example: When god first moved me to State College and gave me new and greater responsibilities over effecting more people, and using some of my perceived weaknesses more than my strengths, I prayed more than once for God to let me go back, to not give me more, but actually less – yet here Paul says we should want more, not less of God's grace, gifts and with it responsibility
- **After I Corinthians 12** – Chapter on how all is useless without love
  - Romans 12 also goes one next to describe how we **love one another**
  - I Corinthians 14 then gives **practical instruction** on using the gifts in the church, again stressing that they are for the building up of the body and thus should be used / controlled so as not to cause confusion or division, not for each person individually but for the body as a whole, and as a witness to outsiders

**- Read Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13** (commenting as we go)

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. <sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup>

- Use of gifts part of living life in a worthy manner ... worthy of our calling
- Repeats need for humility, patience and love

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit— just as you were called to one hope when you were called— <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

- Again, stress on Oneness, gifts should accentuate not undermine oneness
- Given by one God, but to each by grace as he apportions it ...

<sup>11</sup> It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

- Again – He gives, but note here the gift is a person, and the recipient is the church

<sup>12</sup> to prepare God's people for works of service,

- **Goal:** prepare God's people for service ... new dimension, the gift is not just for me to exercise, it is to use to prepare others to serve

so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

- **Goal:** build up the body of Christ ... use our gifts so others reach maturity

- **Ephesians goes on**

- to talk about us no longer being infants, tossed about
- to grow up into Christ

- **Implications:**

- We each have a gift or gifts, given by God, for His purposes
- We each need to use our gifts – body will suffer if any part not working
- We need to be humble, not think too much of our gifts, yet also eagerly desire more
- The gifts are designed to build up the body, to unify us – not divide
- We should be using our gift to edify other, and to equip them to serve better
- We should be growing ourselves and through our gifts growing others to maturity
  
- Which leads to the obvious question – how do I get / discover my gifts?

**3) How do we Discover our Gifts?**

- **Conventional Discovery**

- Gift Survey
- Observation of others

- **Other ways of looking at gifts ... next week**

**\*\* TODAY - let's take Spiritual Gift Inventory {Peter Wagner "Finding Your Spiritual Gifts}**

~ Take gift inventory

~ if time, have them discuss it in small groups ... if run out of time, complete at home

**For Further Study:**

- a. Book: "**What are Spiritual Gifts? Rethinking the Conventional Approach**" by Kenneth Berding
- b. Book: "**S.H.A.P.E. – Finding and Fulfilling Your Unique Purpose for Life**" by Erik Rees
- c. Book: "**What You Do Best in the Body of Christ**" by Bruce Bugbee
- d. Workbook: "**Discover Your Spiritual Gifts the Network Way**" by Bruce Bugbee  
{note: other Spiritual Gift & Personality tests also available}
- e. Bible Study: "**Identity: Becoming What God Wants Us To Be**" NavPress