
ccf
3
THE
HOLY SPIRIT
BOOK
GLC LEVEL 1

THE HOLY SPIRIT

3

BOOK

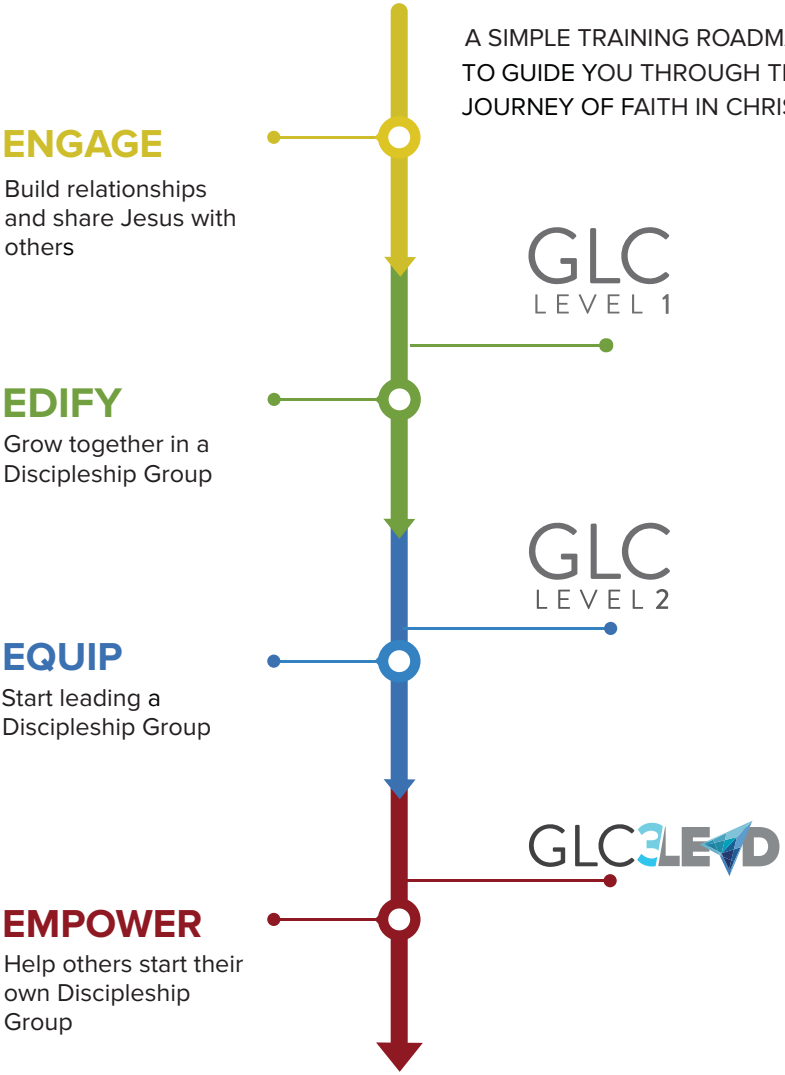
GLC LEVEL 1

BOOK 3: The Holy Spirit (4th Edition)

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The GLC Program

Global Leadership Center (GLC) is CCF's very own discipleship resource to help you grow in your walk, start a group, and help others start their own group.



DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

engage

build relationships and share Jesus with others



Hey, Sis! Do you want to know more about Jesus and the Bible?

Dleader/ Dmember



Okay! When can we meet?

Guest, family or friend

TOOLS FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

Best Decision Tract
Real Talk Booklet

edify

grow together in a Discipleship Group



Bro! Are you interested in joining a Dgroup?

Dleader/ Dmember



Game! Where do I sign up?

Guest, family or friend

TOOLS FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

Real Talk Booklet
True Life Retreat
GLC 1

equip

start leading a Discipleship Group

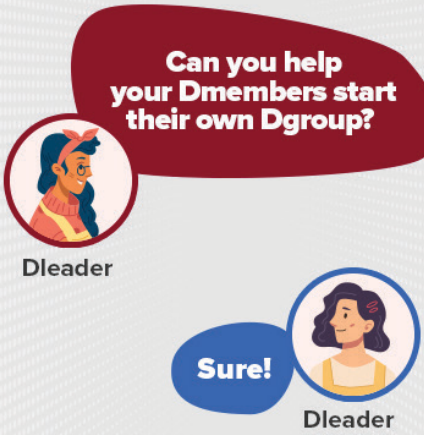


TOOL FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

GLC 2

empower

help others start their own Discipleship Group



TOOL FOR YOUR JOURNEY:

GLC 3

OUR TRAINING

GLC
LEVEL 2

GLC
LEVEL 1

ENTRY
OPEN TO ALL

▶ GLC LEVEL 1

Trainees at this level are taught basic Biblical truths and how to effectively share the Gospel **(Pray, Care, Share)**

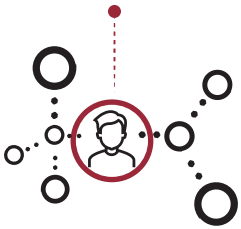


MILESTONES

ENTRY
TRAINEES SHOULD BE DISCIPLING AT LEAST THREE PEOPLE

▶ GLC 3 LEAD

Trainees at this level are taught how to be spiritual multipliers



ENTRY
TRAINEES SHOULD BE FOLLOWING UP AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE

▶ GLC LEVEL 2

Trainees at this level are taught the right doctrines and how to start discipling through a DGroup



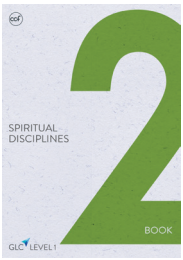
GLC LEVEL 1

OPEN TO ALL
EXPLAINS THE GOSPEL, THE BASICS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, AND CCF'S DNA.



ONE BY ONE

Explore how you can experience lasting change from the inside out through a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Make a positive impact on the world around you as you discover and live out the truth and grace of the gospel.



SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Learn about spiritual habits that, when practiced diligently will help you know Jesus more. Discover His will for your life through His Word, the Bible.



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Discover who the Holy Spirit is and the importance of the Spirit-filled life for every child of God. Understand the gifts and fruit of the Spirit and learn how to be more dependent on the Lord as you apply the truth about the Holy Spirit in your life.



CCF DNA

See the big picture of what Christ's Commission Fellowship is all about, discover our God-given mission, vision, and core values. Know how you are uniquely designed by God to take part in this lifetime of faith adventure of fulfilling God's Great Commission.

GLC true life

OPEN TO ALL

True Life, a two-day spiritual retreat, explores the meaning of a truly fulfilling life. Many seek happiness through worldly success, possessions, and relationships, yet these often leave a void.

The retreat emphasizes that it's faith in Jesus Christ alone that brings true life, one that's filled with joy, hope, and purpose. John 10:10, ("I have come that they may have life and have it to the full") highlights Jesus' promise of abundant life. Participants examine their hearts, share their stories, and discover the victorious life Christ makes available to all who believe in Him.

GLC BAPTISM

OPEN TO ALL

Coming to know Jesus as our Lord and Savior causes us to experience various changes in our lives, beginning with our hearts. Water Baptism is the outward expression, a symbol of what has taken place inside us when we accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.

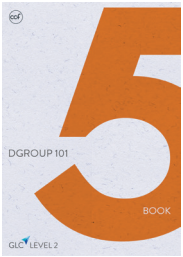
GLC LEVEL 1 COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed Books 1 to 4
2. Registered as a Dgroup Member
3. Attended / Commit to attend a True Life Retreat
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup Leader)

GLC LEVEL 2

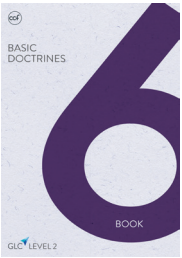
OPEN TO ALL GLC LEVEL 1 FINISHERS AND DGROUP LEADERS

TRAINS YOU HOW TO START A DGROUP, NURTURE YOUR FAMILY, AND KNOW THE BASIC DOCTRINES OF OUR FAITH.



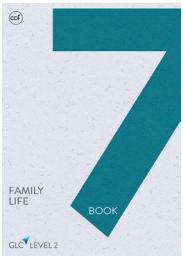
DGROUP 101

Learn about how we grow in a Dgroup that is faithful to Christ's design and is truly transformative.



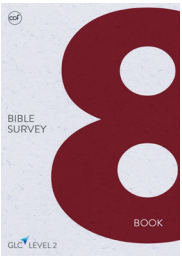
BASIC DOCTRINES

Discover the foundational doctrines behind the Statement of Faith which we believe and profess.



FAMILY LIFE

Be a blessing to your family and lead them to Jesus as you become a Christ-like spouse, sibling, and child.



BIBLE SURVEY

This module presents an extensive chronological overview of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

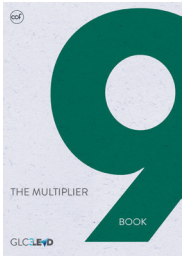
GLC LEVEL 2 COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed all GLC LEVEL 1 requirements
2. Completed Books 5 to 8
3. A Dgroup leader with at least 2 members
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup Leader)

GLC3LEAD

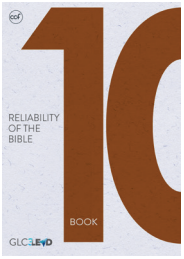
OPEN TO ALL DGROUP LEADERS WITH ACTIVE MEMBERS

TEACHES CCF DGROUP LEADERS HOW TO BETTER MENTOR, COACH, AND EMPOWER THEIR MEMBERS TO START THEIR OWN DGROUP.



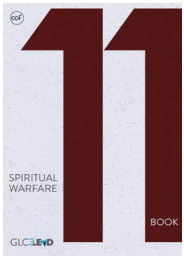
THE MULTIPLIER

Be equipped to lead with Christlike character and multiply leaders for God's glory.



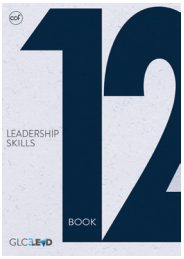
RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE

Discover why the Bible is truly reliable and examine the historical accuracy of Scripture.



SPIRITUAL WARFARE

This module provides an overview of Biblical principles for winning in Spiritual Warfare.



LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Be equipped to lead others Biblically through mentoring, counseling, conflict resolution, and disciple-making relationships.

GLC3 LEAD COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed GLC LEVEL 1 and GLC LEVEL 2 requirements
2. Completed all sessions of books 9 to 12 *(or its equivalent)*
3. A Dgroup Leader with one timothy, discipling 2 members
4. Accomplished the LifeApp form (signed/attested by Dgroup leader)

WHAT'S A GLC LIFEAPP?



The end goal of discipleship is Christikeness. The Christian life is not a "to-do" list; it is a moment-by-moment loving, relationship with our Heavenly Father. It is a life of faith and obedience as we follow Jesus through the discipleship path He has laid for us.

The GLC training curriculum aims for the life application of God's Word. The Bible-based lessons are not merely for information, but for transformation. Hence, the GLC Life App is intended to ensure we apply what we learn.

Download the GLC LifeApp here:

go.ccf.org.ph/LifeApp

GLC TRAINING PLATFORMS

GLC training is offered through different learning platforms so you can choose which one best suits your needs.

GLC FACE TO FACE CLASSES

Make your “on-the-job” training experience more meaningful by joining face-to-face classes and interacting with GLC teachers and other trainees. Check out your local and international CCF satellites announcements and schedules.

GLC zoom CLASSES

Be part of a live online class and learn together in the comfort of your own home, office, or anywhere you are in the world. Check out your local and international CCF satellites announcements and schedules.

GLC in Dgroups

Learn together with your DGroup members as you meet for fellowship, accountability, and Bible study using GLC resources.

GLC eLEARNING SELF-PACED

Can’t Attend GLC F2F and Zoom Classes? Choose the GLC E-Learning Self-Paced program that is designed to fit your busy schedule. Start your discipleship journey to be equipped on your own time, at your own place, and at your own pace.



Welcome Wednesday is a weekly Bible study community designed for those who want to grow in their Discipleship Journey.

Whether you're just starting your walk with God, asking questions, or wanting to grow deeper, this is a safe and encouraging place for you.

Through our Biblical Foundation Series, you'll learn more about who God is, what it means to follow Him, and be plugged into a Dgroup.

Biblical Foundations First-Timers Bible Study Series

This series is well-suited for those who are taking baby steps in their walk with Christ, or those who are simply curious and have questions about the Christian faith. Discover life-transforming answers from God's Word about the forgiveness of sins, heaven and hell, and the best decision you can ever make in this life and for eternity.

Biblical Foundations Follow-Up Bible Study Series

Examine more closely what you know and believe about the nature of sin and its effects on us; the characteristics of genuine faith in Christ and why salvation is free for us, yet has a very high cost that we cannot even pay for.

Holy Spirit
Discover who the Holy Spirit is and the importance of the Spirit-filled life for every child of God.

Galatians
The Book of Galatians is as relevant to us today as it was to the first Christians and within its pages we find important Biblical truths for the defense of the true gospel.

Evangelifestyle
A very important part of our relationship with Jesus is to take part in His mission to reconcile people back to our Heavenly Father. Here you will learn how to pray, care and share the love of Christ to family, friends and even strangers as you go about your daily life.

Spiritual Disciplines
Learn about spiritual habits that, when practiced diligently will help you know Jesus more. As you get to know Christ, you will also discover His will for your life through His Word, the Bible.

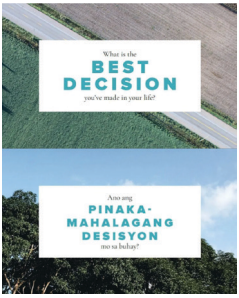
Membership (CCF DNA)
See the big picture of what CCF is all about, discover our God-given mission, vision, and core values. Know how you are uniquely designed take part in this lifetime of faith adventure of fulfilling Christ's Great Commission, and what it means to be a member of God's CCF family.

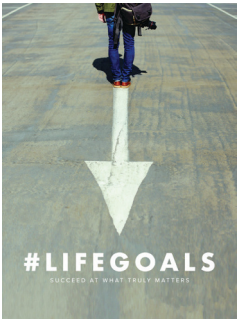
GLC TRAINING



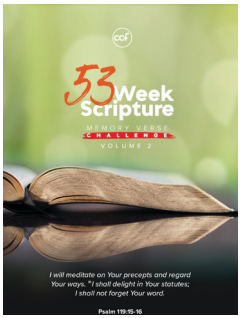
MATERIALS

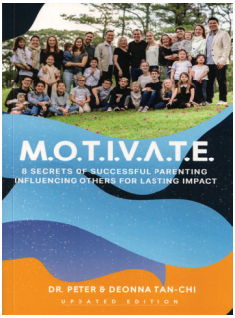


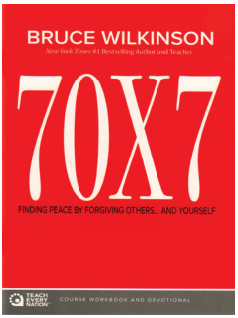


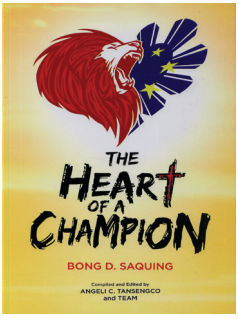












Want to get your own copy of the GLC Books?

You may send your request to **glc@ccf.org.ph,** and our team will gladly assist you with the details.

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INTRODUCTION

As a follower of Jesus Christ, you have begun an exciting adventure with Him! He has given you eternal life and the promise of an abundant life (John 10:10b). But this life is SUPERNATURAL. It is not only difficult but impossible to live in your own power! You can only live it by depending on the Holy Spirit who indwells you. When He controls you, He will cause you to bear fruit and equip you with spiritual gifts to be used in the body of Christ – the Church. He will also enable you to persevere in faith through the challenges and trials which you will encounter as you follow Jesus. He gives you the power for living a life that honors God and counts for eternity.

Acts 1:8
Jesus said, "...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses..."

Do you want to experience that kind of life?

Our prayer is that at the end of this module you will understand more the Person and works of the Holy Spirit and be empowered to be witnesses for Christ as you learn to totally depend on His Spirit. Above all, may you bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit in greater abundance, becoming more like Jesus as you apply what you will learn through this module!

HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

This workbook is for the GLC Book 3: Holy Spirit study. If you are a Dgroup facilitator, please make sure that you do a personal Bible study using this workbook ahead of your Dgroup meeting.

Encourage your group members to have their own workbooks. You may download the PDF version for free at glc.ccf.org.ph. Do not divert from the teaching topic – stick to what is in the workbook.

The workbook includes the Bible lesson, and individual and Dgroup learning activities to help you get the most out of your meetings. There are four parts in every session: Welcome, Talk About It, Apply It and Pray It.

Welcome —

Contains individual and small group activities that help prepare you for the Bible study.

Talk About It —

This is where you go through the Bible lesson with the group. This is also where the members of the group get a chance to express more of their insights, questions, and thoughts about the Bible lesson. They can do it in writing, doodling or drawing, and sharing with the rest of the group.

Pray It —

Suggested prayer points based on the lesson asking for the Lord's grace in applying what has been learned after the study.

This workbook is just a tool. We need to depend on the Holy Spirit to teach us God's truth and transform our hearts as we go through the Bible studies.

So, come and discover the One who will change your life!

Apply It —

This section is accomplished outside the group meeting time. There are suggested individual or group Life Apps that will hopefully help you experience life transformation as you apply God's truth in practical ways.

SESSION ONE

THE PERSON AND WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



Living the Christian life isn't just hard - it's impossible without the Holy Spirit. He gives us the strength to love, to forgive, and to follow Jesus every day.

In this session, you'll get to know who the Holy Spirit is, what He does, and how He can help you live the life God wants for you - not by your own effort, but with His power in you.

WELCOME



If you had the power to change anything for the better for anyone, anywhere in the world, what would you change, and how would you go about doing it?

Learning Nugget

We love superhero stories where ordinary persons are transformed into characters with special powers that they use to help change people's lives. We are often ignorant though, that in real life, God has given us the Holy Spirit to enable us to do extraordinary things for God's glory.

Yet we have a lot of misconceptions about the Spirit of God because we do not know much about Him. Let us discover more who the Holy Spirit really is, and how we are to relate to Him.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE HOLY SPIRIT?

TALK ABOUT IT

The Christian life is not hard. It is impossible.

It is a miraculous and supernatural life.

For example, how will you follow the teachings of Jesus when He tells you, “love your enemy,” “do good to those who hate you,” “forgive those who abuse you”?

Today, most people will react when you do something offensive, abusive or irritating to them. They will never understand how in the world can we love the “unlovable”.

That’s why even many Christian marriages do not last, because couples don’t understand the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit, that we were never meant to live the Christian life on our own strength.

Christianity is not what you do for God, but what He does for you, in you and through you by His Spirit. The problem is not God, but us. We limit Him in our lives. The problem with many of us is not because God does not want to help us. God has provided everything; the only problem is our ignorance or refusal to avail of His provision.

A. Read Acts 1:8

1. What did Jesus promise the believers in relation to the Holy Spirit?

2. What is the result of the fulfillment of this promise in the lives of the believers?

B. Read Acts 13:52

1. How were the believers described in this verse?

> **The great difference between present-day Christianity and that of which we read in [the New Testament epistles] is that to us it is primarily a performance, to them it was a real experience.**
>
> *- JB Philipps*

God has given us His Spirit to enable us to fully experience the amazing, supernatural plan He has for our lives.

I. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Based on these verses, what are the names or titles used for the Holy Spirit?

A. He is called...

Read Romans 8:9-10 and 2 Corinthians 3:17

The Bible is also saying that if Christ is in you, then the Holy Spirit dwells in you (Romans 8:10).

B. The Holy Spirit is **not:**

- A mystical force
- An impersonal power
- An emanation from God

C. The Holy Spirit is a **Person.**

Read John 14:16-17
1. What does Jesus say about the Holy Spirit?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:11, 1 Corinthians 12:11, Ephesians 4:30
2. What do these verses tell us about the Holy Spirit?

D. The Holy Spirit is God. He possesses the following attributes of God:
Read Hebrews 9:14; Psalm 139:7; Luke 1:35; 1 Cor. 2:11

The “attributes of God” mean that these are characteristics that only God possesses. Since the Holy Spirit has these attributes, it means that He is God.

1. Why is it important to correct our wrong beliefs about the Holy Spirit?

2. What attribute of the Holy Spirit is most meaningful for you and why?

"Dear brother, honour the Spirit of God as you would honour Jesus Christ if He were present.

If Jesus Christ were dwelling in your house, you would not ignore Him, you would not go about your business as if He were not there. Do not ignore the presence of the Holy Spirit in your soul.
I beseech you, do not live as if you had not heard whether there were any Holy Spirit.

To Him pay constant adorations. Reverence the august guest who has been pleased to make your body His sacred abode. Love Him, obey Him, worship Him."

- Charles Spurgeon, Preacher, 1834-1892

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE TRI-UNITY

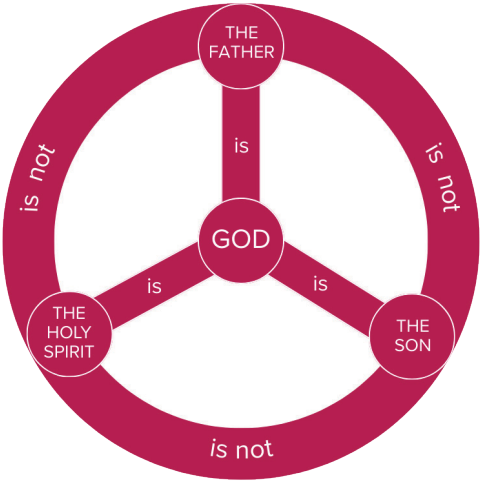


CCF Statement of Faith on the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is God and possesses all divine attributes. He indwells all believers and baptizes them at the moment they trust in Jesus Christ to be their only Savior and Lord. He controls all true believers and empowers them to live the Christian life in response to their obedience, confession of sins, and submission to Him.

Cf. Romans 8:9-11; 2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:18

The Tri-unity: Unity in Diversity



The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. There is only one God, the Bible does not say that there are three gods.

We have only one God, eternally existing in 3 distinct persons - the Father is not the Son, the Son is not the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit is not the Father, they are distinct persons but one Being—God is a Tri-Unity, or the Trinity.



Now the word “Trinity” is not in the Bible, but it is described there in many places such as in the following passages:

- Matthew 28:19
- Mark 1:10-11
- Genesis 1:26



1. What false teachings about the Trinity did you believe before?

2. Now that you know the truth about the Trinity, how will you apply this understanding in your daily life – whether in your worship, prayer or in sharing your faith with others?

III. THE WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. Why Did the Holy Spirit Come?

1. Read Acts 1:8

• What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit's coming?

2. Read Ezekiel 36:27

• What is the Holy Spirit's role in our lives?

In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit is manifested every time there was a mission order:

Examples:

Othniel Judges 3:10	And the Spirit of the Lord came upon him
Gideon Judges 6:34	So the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon;
Jephthah Judges 11:29	Now the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah, ...
Samson Judges 14:6,15	And the Spirit of the Lord came upon him mightily, ...
Bezalel Exodus 31:3-5	God filled him with the Spirit to make artistic designs.

3. Read Galatians 3:14

Through Jesus, Gentile believers (non-Jews) can also receive the same blessings that God promised Abraham.

This blessing is the “promise of the Spirit through faith”.

4. Read John 14:16

- How did Jesus refer to the Holy Spirit?

- What is the Spirit’s role in the believer’s life?

“Helper” in Greek is Paracletos - means “comes alongside”; “advocate, pleads like a lawyer before a judge”; “to aid, to comfort with strength”; to assist us

“Another” in Greek is allos - means “exactly the same kind” in contrast to heteros which in Greek means “another of a different kind)

In what area of your life do you need help from the Holy Spirit the most? Choose one below or give your own answer:

Character flaw that needs transformation

A difficult relationship that needs repair or reconciliation

A step of obedience that you are afraid to take

5. **Read John 14:26**

- What does this verse say that the Holy Spirit will do for us?

- Does this mean we don't need Bible study teachers? Why or why not?

6. **Read John 16:14**

- According to this verse, what will the Spirit do in relation to Jesus?

- How do you test if an idea or thought is from the Holy Spirit?

- If the Holy Spirit is in you, what will you be able to do?

B. What are the works of the Holy Spirit?

Note down what the verses say are the works of the Holy Spirit:

1. Read Titus 3:4-5

- What does this verse say about the Spirit's work in our lives?

- Are there any habits or patterns you need to let go of to embrace this new life?

2. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

Being baptized into the Body of Christ means that God now connects you and identifies you with Him and with the people of God (the church).

The phrase "baptized by the Holy Spirit" is used only seven (7) times in the Bible. Some of these verses are:

Matthew 3:11
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

John 1:33
...this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:5
...but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit

The baptism of the Holy Spirit for believers was promised in the gospels and repeated by Jesus in Acts 1:5 after His resurrection.

This promise was fulfilled 50 days later, an event we now know as the “Pentecost” (Acts 2:1-4).

On that day, 120 of them experienced the reality of the Holy Spirit, yet because the baptism of the Holy Spirit is invisible, the Lord allowed them to hear the sound like the wind, see the “tongues of fire” and He enabled them to speak in foreign languages supernaturally (Arabs, Cretans, Egyptians, etc.).

These “signs” were to show that the Holy Spirit was real. It shows you that once you received the Holy Spirit, you are baptized into the body of Christ.
(1 Corinthians 12:13)



3. Read Ephesians 1:13-14

How do these verses describe one of the Holy Spirit's key actions for believers, guaranteeing the believer's salvation and future inheritance?

4. Read Galatians 5:16-17

What very important work does the Holy Spirit do in us?

Knowing that the Holy Spirit sanctifies us, and considering the struggle between the "flesh" and the "Spirit" described in Galatians 5:16-17, how can we practically "walk by the Spirit" in our daily lives to resist specific temptations we face?

APPLY IT

1. Commit to memorize the following verses on the Holy Spirit:

Galatians 5:22-23
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

2. Obtain a copy of The Holy Spirit: Power for Living booklet (published by CCF) and read through it at least three times. You may also download a PDF copy for free using this link: **https://glc.ccf.org.ph/dlworkbooks/the-holy-spirit-power-for-living/.**

Apply the truth you read there in your own life, then read through the booklet with another Christian, perhaps a family member, your Dgroup members, ministry teammates, etc. Do set a time period for you to accomplish this activity. Ideally, you should complete this action point within one week (7 days) before the next session.

PRAY IT

Father God, Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to dwell in us, giving us the power to say “no” to sin, and empowering us to live a godly life. May we never continually grieve the Holy Spirit but remain sensitive to His conviction of sin, leading us to repentance as He continually transforms us into the likeness of Christ.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.

SESSION TWO

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



God gives every believer spiritual gifts through the Holy Spirit—unique abilities to serve others and make an impact for His glory. These gifts are given by the Spirit and are intended to build up the body of Christ.

In addition to these gifts, the Holy Spirit transforms our character by producing the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23).

This session will help you discover your spiritual gifts and grow in the fruit of the Spirit, so you can live a life that reflects Jesus and effectively serve others.

WELCOME



Instructions

Unscramble the words below. Each one is either a Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23) or a Spiritual Gift (Romans 12:6–8; 1 Corinthians 12:8–10; Ephesians 4:11).

1. VLOE	2. NISDSKNE	3. FITHA	4. PTAEINEC
5. POHYREPC	6. LSEF-LORTNCO	7. CHANTEIG	8. YJO
9. EGNELTENSS	10. GVREI	11. CNDISENMERT	12. STERACHE

Learning Nugget

The Holy Spirit produces fruit in our lives to show Christlike character and gives us gifts so we can serve others and build up the church. When we recognize these, we become more intentional about using and growing them through God's power.

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

TALK ABOUT IT

I. WHAT ARE THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. DEFINING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Spiritual Gifts: Greek --"charismata"

Charismata is from charis, the word for "grace". Charismata is the gift of grace. What are these gifts? "There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit... to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Corinthians 12:4; 7)

The Holy Spirit gives you different gifts; these are abilities for the common good.

Spiritual gifts are special God-given abilities when you come to Jesus. All of us have a special gift from God and though this can be the same as your natural talent, many times it is different.

The definition for spiritual gifts includes **the source** who is the Holy Spirit. Spiraitual gifts mean **special abilities** and their **purpose** is for **service.**

Spiritual gifts are identified in four places in the Bible:

ROMANS 12
• Prophecy • Service • Teaching • Exhortation • Giving • Leadership • Mercy

1 CORINTHIANS 12	
• Apostle	• Tongues
• Prophet	• Words of Wisdom
• Teacher	• Word of Knowledge
• Miracles	• Faith
• Healing	• Interpretation of tongues
• Helps	
• Adminstration	• Discernment

EPHESIANS 4
• Apostle • Prophet • Evangelist • Pastor • Teacher

1 PETER 4
• Speaks • Serves

Read Romans 12:1-2

Having spiritual gifts does not make you Spirit-filled. Paul encourages us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice and be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

What is preventing you from offering your body as a living sacrifice holy and pleasing to God? What area of your thought life needs renewing?

B. CLARIFYING "CONTROVERSIAL" SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Prophecy

Prophecy is primarily the act of declaring God's message and interpreting His purposes, it is not necessarily predicting the future. The Bible is complete therefore prophecy is proclaiming God's already revealed truth.

Apostleship

Although apostles don't exist today, the **work** of apostleship continues - like the missionaries and church planters.

Wisdom/Knowledge

The word of wisdom is a speaking gift where someone understands and speaks forth Biblical truth, skillfully applying it to life situations with discernment. The word of knowledge is also a speaking gift which involves understanding truth with insight that comes from God's revelation. It involves understanding the deep things of God and the mysteries of His Word.

We ought to serve the Body of Christ based on our giftedness. Leaders must help their disciples discover their giftedness. Once you know what areas you are gifted in, then serve in that capacity. Gifts are not to make you proud, not for you to make comparisons with one another.

Summary of teaching on spiritual gifts:

- The Holy Spirit is the source of all spiritual gifts.
- Each person has been given at least one spiritual gift.
- Every person may not have the same gift.
- It is the Holy Spirit who determines what gift He will give to each person.
- Exercising the gifts should build up the Body of Christ.
- Whatever gift we might have, we are all baptized (placed into) by the Spirit into the Body of Christ.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-16, 18-23, 26, 28-31

The church is one body with many members who have different functions. There are different gifts given so each of us is to exercise them accordingly.

How would you summarize what you have learned so far about spiritual gifts?

Tongues

Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-5, 22-23

a. What do the verses teach on tongues?

Descriptive vs Prescriptive Passages

A passage is descriptive if it is simply describing something that happened, while a passage is prescriptive if it is specifically teaching that something needs to happen (to be done or applied).

Tongues-Speaking in the Early Church

Read Acts 2:1-8
Who: All
How: Sudden; no laying of hands
What: Tongues were languages, understood, sound of wind, like fire

Read Acts 10:44-48
Who: Gentiles
How: No laying of hands
What: All spoke in tongues, then baptized in water

Read Acts 19:1-6
Who: Gentiles, not yet followers of Jesus
How: Evangelized first by Paul, then baptized, then lay hands,
What: Spoke in tongues

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21, 1 John 4:1

MAJOR ON THE MAJOR DON'T MAJOR IN THE MINOR.

Read 1 Peter 4:10-11, Ephesians 4:11-12

Observation: No fixed pattern; tongues were for proof that the Gentiles are accepted by God through Jesus by faith.

Read 1 Corinthians 14:26-28; 39-40

b. What do these verses teach about speaking in tongues?

c. What should be our attitude about controversial spiritual gifts?

d. Are you committed to use your own spiritual gifts in order to build up the body of Christ?

II. HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT/S:

1. Be sure that you have the Holy Spirit in you.
2. Realize God has given you at least one spiritual gift.
3. Discover your gifts as you serve.
4. Your gifts will be validated by the people around you.
5. Your gifts will be affirmed by your leaders

If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as a Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause and say, "Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well."

- Martin Luther King

III. WHAT IS THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE?

A. A Spirit-filled life is a life empowered by the Holy Spirit.

1. Speaks the Word of God with boldness

Read Acts 4:31

What does this verse tell us about the early believers? Why were they so bold in speaking the word of God?

2. Joy-Filled

Read Acts 13:52

Are you continually joyful in spite of your circumstances? What is stopping you from being continually joyful?

The central core of the Christian life is joy; the peripheral, sometimes, is sorrow. Let me repeat: the central essence of the Christian life is joy, but on—the peripheral—sometimes there is sadness. We are not exempt from problems, but at the very basic core of our being—is joy.... the Bible commands us in Philippians 4:4, *"Rejoice, again I say rejoice."*

- Pastor Peter Tan-chi

3. Full of faith

Read Acts 6:3,5; Acts 11:24

These verses talk about people who are "full of faith and of the Spirit." What are some things we see in their lives that show this is true?



B. The difference between the fruit and gifts of the Holy Spirit

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT	GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT
• Result of being filled/controlled by the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)	• Result of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:4-13)
• Purpose is Christ-like character and service (Gal. 5:16)	• Purpose is for service and helping others (Eph. 4:11; 1 Cor. 12)
• Same for all believers (Eph. 5:18)	• Different gifts for each believer (1 Cor. 12: 7-11)
• Through moment-by-moment obedience & surrender; progressive (Gal. 5:15, Eph. 4:1-4)	• Through service & obedience, progressive - develops as you serve (1 Peter 4:10-11)
• By faith	• By faith

C. The Holy Spirit empowers every believer to be all that God wants him to be:

Christlikeness	Witness for Him	Serve Him
Bear fruit	Do His will	

1. What are believers commanded to do in Ephesians 5:18?

Being filled with the Holy Spirit means...

a. To be directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
b. To be Christ-centered and controlled by Him.
c. It is the exchanged life; to die to self and to live for Christ.

The command "be filled with the Spirit" is in the present continuous tense; it means be always continuously controlled, be always continuously filled. It is a moment-by-moment decision. It is a command, not a suggestion so if we are not filled with the Spirit, you and I are living in sin.

2. Is your life characterized by the fruit of the Spirit more today than it was a year ago? If yes, what evidence do you see in your life that supports your answer (perhaps in the way you relate to your family members, how you respond to stressful or unfair situations, how you spend your money, how you conduct yourself at work, etc.).

If not, what has hindered you from becoming more Christ-like? What do you need to do to get rid of this obstacle?

APPLY IT

Do you, your family members and disciples know your spiritual gifts? Make it a goal to find out what the Holy Spirit has blessed you with and help your family members and Dgroup members discover theirs too. Here are some things that will enable you to do that.

1. Ask the people closest to you what they have observed to be your spiritual gifts.

2. Answer the question: “What kinds of ministries have I found myself naturally attracted to?”

3. Take the spiritual gifts inventory such as the one you can take online at this links: **www.SpiritualGiftsTest.com** or **www.sdrock.com/giftstest/**

4. The best way to discover and express your spiritual gifts is through serving your Dgroup family (other than your biological family). Volunteer to use your gifts at your next Dgroup meeting. You may also wish to volunteer to serve at a ministry in CCF regularly.



PRAY IT

Our Father in heaven,

We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Source of all spiritual gifts. May we use these gifts to serve Your Church faithfully. We also thank You for the Holy Spirit's work in our lives, empowering us to bear fruit that reflects Christlikeness, serves as a witness for Jesus, and enables us to do Your will. May we live lives consistently filled with the Holy Spirit, bringing glory to your Name.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SESSION THREE

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT



Walking in the Spirit is letting the Holy Spirit guide and empower your everyday life. It's more than just believing - it's living a Christ-centered life where you surrender your desires and follow God's direction.

Through this session, you'll learn what it means to be filled with the Spirit, how real faith leads to real change, and how even committed followers may stumble - but never walk alone.



WELCOME

Before we dive into our session, take a moment to reflect quietly. Think back on your day or week and write down 1-2 situations where you had to make a choice—big or small.

Now beside each one, ask yourself:

- Did I respond in a way that reflects walking in the Spirit?
- If not, how would the Spirit have led me differently?

You won't need to share this — it's just for you to reflect and start the session with honesty and awareness.

Learning Nugget

Walking in the Spirit is not just about big, spiritual moments — it's about small, daily choices. As Galatians 5:25 says, 'Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.' Today, we'll learn what that looks like and how we can grow in following the Spirit's leading in every part of life.

LIVING A SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

TALK ABOUT IT

I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO WALK IN THE SPIRIT?

A. The filling of the Holy Spirit is different from the "indwelling" of the Holy Spirit.

To be filled with the Spirit is to be **directed and empowered**, to be **Christ-centered and controlled.** It is the "exchanged life"; you die to self and live for Christ.

B. To have the Holy Spirit in your life is to be indwelt by Him.

Read Ephesians 1:13-14, Acts 2:38

1. How does the Holy Spirit come into your life?

Read Matthew 7:21

2. Is it possible to believe and not repent?

If you don't want to change, if you want to remain in sin and all you want is a passport to go to heaven, then that kind of faith may not be real.

3. What is the difference between saving faith in Jesus and counterfeit faith?

4. Will a committed follower of Christ still fail?

The Bible does not teach that when you come to Christ, you will never sin again. A genuine Christian is not perfect, but when you know or realize that you are not pleasing God, you will do everything to please Him because that is your direction in life.

Read Romans 8:9

5. Who is a genuine Christian?

Once you come to Christ, the Holy Spirit is in you, and once He's in you, He will change you. It does not mean that you are perfect, but you're on your way to perfection.

SUMMARY OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING INDWELT BY AND BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

INDWELT BY THE SPIRIT	FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT
Upon salvation (Eph. 1:13-14)	Upon surrendering (Eph. 5:18)
Indwelt by faith, through repentance and prayer (Eph. 1:13,14; Acts 2:38)	Filled by faith, through prayer and obedience (1 John 5:14,15)
Permanent (Hebrews 13:5)	Moment-by-moment (Gal. 5:16)
Gift of God (Gal. 3:14)	Commanded by God (Eph. 5:18)

Indwelling is permanent, once He comes into your life the Holy Spirit promised He will never leave you.

The filling of the Holy Spirit is moment by moment; the fullness of the Spirit is moment by moment, there's no guarantee that tomorrow He's in control of your life, as you may lose your temper; you may get angry; if so, how do you go back to being Spirit-filled? You must confess your sin and by faith, ask the Holy Spirit (pray) to fill you once more (1 John 1:9) and continue walking in the Spirit.

Read Galatians 5:16-17

6. What is the command that is given for us to obey?

To walk in the Spirit means that we yield to His control, we follow His lead, and we allow Him to exert His influence over us.

In some Bible translations, this is written as “live by the Spirit”. In other words, do it step by step; follow (obey) Jesus moment by moment.

II. WHY ARE SOME CHRISTIANS NOT FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

God commands us to be filled with the Spirit, and if we are not filled, it is because we are living beneath our privileges.

- Dwight L. Moody

A. Ignorance

B. Spiritual Warfare

Reality of conflicts: know your enemy

Satan

Read 1 Peter 5:8 and Ephesians 6:11-12

World

Read 1 John 2:15-17 and Romans 12:2

Flesh

Read Romans 7:15,19 and Romans 7:24-25

How will walking in the Spirit (being filled with the Holy Spirit moment by moment) give you victory over your enemies?

Read Romans 8:1-2

A law is universal, just like the law of gravity is operational in Japan, and operational in the Philippines. Similarly, **the law of sin is operational in every human being everywhere in the world.** This means that for those under the law of sin, they will keep on sinning from the day they are born until the day they die.

The law of the Spirit is another law, and it overcomes the law of sin. This would be like how the law aerodynamics can overcome the law of gravity.

Just as the law of aerodynamics allows a plane or butterfly to fly despite the law of gravity, the law of the Spirit enables believers to live above the law of sin. Gravity and sin still exist, but a higher law can overcome them. This means if Christ is in you, the Spirit is at work.

The law of the Spirit says you do not have to sin anymore; you can overcome the law of sin. By the grace of God, a believer's lifestyle is no longer a lifestyle of sin because he is no longer under sin, he is no longer in bondage.



You need to be filled by the Holy Spirit, because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus sets you free from the law of sin and death. Since the law of sin and death is at work in the world, it's useless to just tell people, "Please stop robbing. Stop cheating. Stop sinning," because it's in people's nature to sin and be corrupt.

C. Unbelief

D. Disobedience

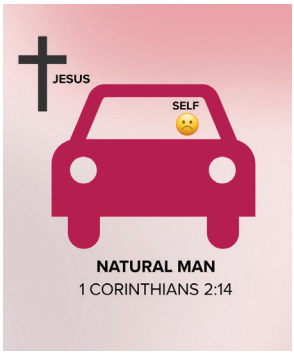
E. Unconfessed sin/unresolved conflict

F. Self-sufficiency/prayerlessness

• Which of these reasons do you find most challenging to overcome in your own life?

• What steps can you take to address it so you can experience the fullness of the Spirit?

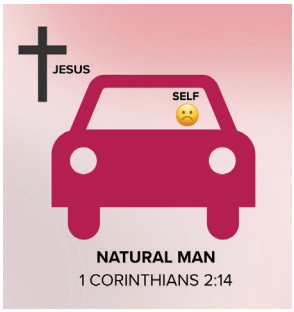
III. THREE KINDS OF PEOPLE







A. The Natural Person



Read 1 Corinthians 2:14

1. How does this verse describe the natural person?

B. The Carnal or Worldly Person

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-3

1. How do these verses describe the carnal or worldly person?



C. The Spiritual Person



Read 1 Corinthians 2:15-16

1. How do these verses describe the spiritual person?

2. Evaluate yourself: Are you a natural person, a spiritual Christian, or a carnal Christian? Explain your answer.

IV. WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE OF THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE?

A. The example of John the Baptist

Read Luke 1:15 and John 10:41-42

1. How is John the Baptist described in these verses?

2. Does evidence for a Spirit-filled life always include miraculous signs?

B. Walking in the Spirit

Read Galatians 5:16-17

Here is a prescriptive passage (prescriptive means it's prescribing an action or an application).

1. What is the command given here?

2. What is the promise given to those who obey this command?

C. Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit

Read Galatians 5:22-23

1. How is the fruit of the Spirit described in these verses?

2. What is the evidence that you are filled with the Spirit?



Many Christians can smile when everything is fine, but the moment you are “squeezed”, what reactions and character traits come out of you? When you are under pressure, does Christlikeness (the fruit of the Spirit) come out, instead of cursing, angry outbursts, a demanding spirit, etc.?

> **Christlikeness is the eternal predestinating purpose of God.**
>
> *- John Stott*

Christlikeness is the automatic overflow of being Sprit-filled! If you run into inconveniences in daily living, remember to be filled with the Spirit and practice Christlikeness. If thousands of us will be such people, we will truly influence this world for Christ.

Read Ephesians 5:18-22 and Colossians 3:16

3. What are believers commanded to do in the following passages?

There is a parallelism between Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3 -- to be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be filled with God's word and the result is the same, a joyful, grateful heart full of songs of praise to the Lord.

If you want to know whether you are filled with the Spirit or not, check yourself: Are you joyful? Are you thankful? Are you humble? Are you witnessing for Jesus? Are you Christ-like?

V. HOW CAN YOU BE FILLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. Desire intimacy with God (Jeremiah 29:13, Matthew 5:6)

B. Surrender your life to Jesus (Galatians 2:20, Romans 12:1-2)

To be crucified with Christ...

- You must die to self
- You must yield control to Him
- You must identify your idols and surrender it
- You must surrender your rights to Him
- You must live in complete dependence upon Him

To follow Christ, you must yield control to Him and surrender your idols - whether it's your family, career or relationships. This also includes surrendering your perceived rights.

For example, when we feel inconvenienced or our rights are violated, like losing a seat at a restaurant or church, we get angry. But surrending our rights and sense of entitlement helps us think more about others and bless them. Dying to yourself doesn't mean becoming a doormat, but it brings true freedom:

• Freedom to lay down the terrible burden of always needing your own way.
• Freedom from needing to look good or be right all the time.
• Dying to self means taking off your eyes from yourself and focusing on Jesus, it's the most liberating thing.

"Lord Jesus, here I am. I surrender everything to you. I surrender all. My reputation, my family, my future, I surrender all. My ambition, I surrender all."

C. Repent and confess every known sin (1 John 1:9)

D. Claim His promise by faith (1 John 5:14-15, 2 Corinthians 5:7)

Pray and ask to be filled by faith:

"Dear Father, I confess that I have been in control of my own life. I am truly sorry Lord, and I am deeply grateful for the forgiveness you have granted me when I trusted in Jesus as my Savior and Lord. I surrender the control of my life to You. Fill me now with the Holy Spirit as You commanded me to be filled. I claim Your promise that You will answer me when I ask in faith.

In Jesus' name, Amen."



Illustration by Dr. Bill Bright

VI. PRACTICE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES (HABITS)

Read 1 Corinthians 9:27, 1 Timothy 4:7-8

To continually walk in the Spirit, we must do our part and practice a well-disciplined life; we must develop spiritual disciplines:

- Prayer and Fasting
- Study of Scriptures, Meditate and Memorize
- Small Group Accountability
- Worship
- Witness
- Flee temptation, Guard Thought Life
- Spiritual Breathing

> **The world has yet to see what God can do with and for and through and in and by the man who is fully and wholly consecrated to Him. I will try my utmost to be that man.**
>
> *- DL Moody*



1. How are you doing with the practice of spiritual disciplines?

2. What disciplines have been most helpful for you so far in your growth as a follower of Jesus?

3. Which ones do you need to practice more consistently?

PRACTICE WALKING IN THE FULLNESS OF THE SPIRIT

1. In case you sin...

a. Do Spiritual breathing

- Exhale - Confess your sin
- Inhale - Surrender; ask the Holy Spirit to fill you again

b. Walk by faith - moment by moment

- Exhale - Confess your sin
- Inhale - Surrender; ask the Holy Spirit to fill you again

2. When tempted, walk by the Spirit

Read Galatians 5:16

P-Pause

R-Resist the first impulse

A-Ask the Holy Spirit what to do

Y-Yield to the Holy Spirit's control

When you feel like reacting negatively to someone's irritating remark or hurtful behavior, if you have an attitude or action which you know is sinful and you know that your reaction, attitude or action is against God's Word, then the first thing you should do is you **PAUSE.**

That means to stop and take a breath. Research shows that when you stop, you pause, and you take a deep breath then you can think more clearly.

After that, then you **RESIST**; you resist the first impulse, you resist your first reaction because it will most probably be a negative one. It's usually carnal, selfish, it could be sinful; you have to resist that, you have to say "no" to that first impulse.

The next thing you can do is that you **ASK** the Holy Spirit: "Holy Spirit, what do I say, what do I do based on God's word? How do You want me to respond?" Ask Him and then you listen because He will tell you how to respond in a godly way.

Then you **YIELD** to the Spirit. You ask the Holy Spirit to take control of your being, your thoughts, feelings and actions. After that, you will be able to act and respond in the power of the Holy Spirit.

"I firmly believe that the moment our hearts are emptied of selfishness and ambition and self-seeking and everything that is contrary to God's law, the Holy Spirit will come and fill every corner of our hearts; I also believe that many a man is praying to God to fill him, when he is full already with something else.

Before we pray that God would fill us, I believe we ought to pray that He would empty us but if we are full of pride and conceit, ambition and self-seeking, pleasure and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God. There must be an emptying before there can be a filling; and when the heart is turned upside down, and everything that is contrary to God is turned out, then the Spirit will come...

- DL Moody

PRAY IT

Dear Father, I'm sorry for taking control of my own life. Thank You for forgiving me through Jesus. I surrender to You, please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. I claim Your promise that You will answer me when I ask in faith.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



WHAT'S NEXT?
Book 4: CCF DNA

Great job on completing Book 3: The Holy Spirit!

We hope that your deeper understanding of who the Holy Spirit is and what He does in your life will empower you to live a Spirit-filled life—moment by moment.

As you continue your discipleship journey, we encourage you to move on to Book 4: CCF DNA. In this next study, you will discover the Mission, Vision, and Core Values of CCF. You'll learn about the importance of obeying God's command to make disciples and the privilege of participating in His mission, fulfilling His vision, and living out Bible-based core values—not just as individuals, but as committed members of CCF.

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

SESSION 1

INTRODUCTION:

a. Acts 1:8
1. What did Jesus promise the believers in relation to the Holy Spirit?
• The Holy Spirit will come upon them.

2. What is the result of the fulfillment of this promise in the lives of the believers?
• They will be witnesses for Jesus in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

b. Acts 13:52

1. How were the believers described in this verse?

• They were continually filled with the Spirit and with Joy.

I. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A. He is called The Spirit (Rom. 8:9); The Spirit of God (Rom. 8:9); The Spirit of Christ (Rom. 8:9); The Lord (2 Cor. 3:17)

C. The Holy Spirit is a Person.

1. John 14: 16-17 The Holy Spirit is our Helper. He is the Spirit of Truth.

2. The Holy Spirit is a Person!

• 1 Cor. 2:11 He knows God's thoughts. (He has intellect)
• 1 Cor. 12:11 He decides. (He has a will)
• Ephesians 4:30 He can be grieved. (He has emotions)

D. The Holy Spirit is God.

- Hebrews 9:14 He is eternal
- Psalm 139:7 He is ever-present (OMNIPRESENT)
- Luke 1:35 He is all-powerful (OMNIPOTENT)
- 1 Cor. 2:11 He is all-knowing (OMNISCIENT)

1. It is important not to confuse the Holy Spirit with just a feeling, a force or an energy. The Holy Spirit is a person.
2. Give your own answer.

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE TRI-UNITY

1. Give own answer
2. Give own answer

III. THE WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. Why did the Holy Spirit come?

1. Acts 1:8 To empower us

2. Ezekiel 36:27 To transform us

4. Jesus called the Holy Spirit a Helper (paracletos). John 14:16. The Holy Spirit came to help us.

5. John 14:26 To teach us.
No, it means the Holy Spirit will guide us as we learn from the Bible and others. The verse also says He will bring to our remembrance, which implies we need to have learned them first.

6. John 16:14 To glorify Christ. The Holy Spirit never glorifies Himself. He always points people to Jesus. That's the Tri-unity of God, they don't compete for glory. We will glorify God as well.

B. What Are the Works of the Holy Spirit?

1. Titus 3:4-5 He Regenerates us.

(Give your own answer) For example: I will stop gossiping during lunch hour with my officemates. I will be more disciplined with Bible reading and prayer time by setting an alarm for 6:00 AM each day.

3. Ephesians 1:13-14 He Seals us.

This is a business term, and it means that you were "marked" with the Holy Spirit, "who is given as a pledge (guarantee) of our inheritance.

4. Galatians 5:16-17 He Sanctifies us.

Give your own answer. Example: It's a daily, moment choice to surrender to the Spirit's leading and rely on His power to overcome our sinful desires.

We need to practice spiritual disciplines such as prayer, quite time, bible study, accountability and fellowship with other believers in our daily walk to help us resist the temptations we face.

SESSION 2

1. LOVE (Fruit)
2. KINDNESS (Fruit)
3. FAITH (Gift)
4. PATIENCE (Fruit)
5. PROPHECY (Gift)
6. SELF-CONTROL (Fruit)
7. TEACHING (Gift)
8. JOY (Fruit)
9. GENTLENESS (Fruit)
10. GIVER (Gift – Romans 12)
11. DISCERNMENT (Gift)
12. TEACHERS (Gift – Eph. 4)

I. WHAT ARE THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

b. Clarifying "controversial" spiritual gifts
Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-16, 18-23, 26, 28-31

3. a. How would you summarize what you have learned so far about spiritual gifts?

- Different people have different gifts.
- We should not insist on having the same gifts.
- Do not be jealous or compare.
- All are needed.
- We can desire gifts, but God determines.
- We should desire greater gifts.

Tongues (1 Corinthians 14:1-5, 22-23)
a.

- It is better to prophecy than to speak in tongues
- Prophecy is for building the church, tongues edify the one speaking in tongues
- Tongues are a sign to unbelievers - like at Pentecost
- Day of Pentecost (Acts 2)
- Gentiles Cornelius (Acts 10)
- John's Disciples (Acts 19)

1 Corinthians 14:26-28; 39-40

b.

- Should not be forbidden
- Are not encouraged by Paul without interpretation
- Should be exercised with strict guidelines in the church
- Should not cause division but should build unity

c. Give your own answer

d. Give your own answer

III. WHAT IS THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE?

A. A Spirit-filled life is a life empowered by the Holy Spirit.

1. Acts 4:31 This verse tells us the early believers were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

2. Give your own answer

3. Full of faith, wisdom, and a “good person”; their church leaders approved (were pleased) with them.

C. Ephesians 5:18 We are commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

SESSION 3

I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO WALK IN THE SPIRIT?

B.

1. The Holy Spirit comes when you repent. To repent means that you believe He’s Lord, He’s God, and He is your master.

When the Bible says, “believe in Jesus”, it uses the word “believe” in theory and technically in every sense of the word, to mean to “repent”.

2. No, it’s not! “Believing” without repentance has nothing to do with salvation.

3. Saving faith in Jesus is evidenced by repentance, not perfection in the life of the believer. Counterfeit faith holding the right beliefs about Jesus BUT with no repentance.

4. Yes, sometimes they will still fail but they are quick to repent when they do. The good news is that they will fail less and less; they will sin less and less.

5. A genuine Christian is somebody who has the Holy Spirit!

6. Galatians 5:16-17 To walk in the Spirit.

II. WHY ARE SOME CHRISTIANS NOT FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

B. Spiritual Warfare.

How will walking in the Spirit (being filled with the Holy Spirit moment by moment) give you victory over your enemies?

Walking in the Spirit means that you have the power to say "no" to sin, and "yes" to obeying God and living according to His will.

Walking in the Spirit means that you are living according to the "law of the Spirit" and not according to the law of the flesh and you no longer have to sin.

III. THREE KINDS OF PERSON

A. The Unbelieving (Natural) Person

- Depends solely upon his own resources
- Separated from God

• Spiritually blind
• Christ outside his life, no relationship.

B. The Carnal or Worldly Person

• Defeated and fruitless Christian
• Does not allow the Holy Spirit to control his life
• Frustrated and no real joy
• Acts like a baby - self-centered
• No assurance of salvation

C. The Spirit-filled Christian

• Christ is in control of his life
• Dependent upon God's resources and power
• Life of peace and joy
• Brings glory to God because of his fruitful life
• He witnesses for Jesus

IV. WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE OF THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE?

A. The example of John the Baptist"
1. He will be great in the sight of the Lord
• He will drink no wine or liquor
• He will be filled with the Holy Spirit
• He performed no sign
• He gave a true testimony about Jesus

2. No, not necessarily so.
John performed no sign, no miracles, "yet everything John said about this man was true." Many believed in Jesus because of John's ministry. The evidence of the filling of the Holy Spirit is not always a supernatural sign.

B. Walking in the Spirit
1. To walk in the Spirit.
2. You will not follow the desire of the flesh.

C. Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit
1. Galatians 5:22-23 Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

2. My life will show the fruit of the Holy Spirit.
• Be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)
• Being joyful and thankful (Ephesians 5:19)
• Being subject to one another (Ephesians 5:19-22)
(Wives being subject to your own husbands as to the Lord)
• Admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, spiritual songs singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God (Ephesians 5:19-20, Colossians 3:16)

APPENDIX A

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DEFINITIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

Source:

https://spiritualgiftstest.com

Administration

The Greek word for the spiritual gift of administration is Kubernesis. This is a unique term that refers to a shipmaster or captain. The literal meaning is "to steer," or "to rule or govern." It carries the idea of someone who guides and directs a group of people toward a goal or destination. We see variations of this word in verses like Acts 27:11, and Revelation 18:17.

With this gift the Holy Spirit enables certain Christians to organize, direct, and implement plans to lead others in the various ministries of the Church. This gift is closely related to the gift of leadership, but is more goal or task oriented and is also more concerned with details and organization. See also I Corinthians 12:28, Titus 1:4-5.

Apostleship

The spiritual gift of apostleship is sometimes confused with the office of Apostle. The office of Apostle was held by a limited number of men chosen by Jesus, including the twelve disciples (Mark 3:13-19) and Paul (Romans 1:1). The requirements for the office of Apostle included being a faithful eyewitness of Jesus' ministry and His resurrection (Acts 1:21-22; 1 Corinthians 9:1), and being called by Jesus Himself (Galatians 1:1). The Apostles were given authority by Jesus to do many different things to establish the church, including writing Scripture and performing miracles (John 14:26, 2 Peter 3:15-16, 2 Corinthians 12:12).

There are no more that hold the office of Apostle today, but the gift of apostleship continues in a different sense. Jesus gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers at His ascension (Ephesians 4:7-12), and these represent a distinct category of apostles. They do not have the authority to write Scripture as the original Apostles did. They also have a different purpose in the sense of establishing the church – the foundation has already been set.

The mission for those with the gift of apostleship today is to plant new ministries and churches, go into places where the Gospel is not preached, reach across cultures to establish churches in challenging environments, raise up and develop leaders, call out and lead pastors and shepherds, and much more. They often have many different gifts that allow them to fulfill their ministry. These are leaders of leaders and ministers of ministers.

They are influencers. They are typically entrepreneurial and are able to take risks and perform difficult tasks. Missionaries, church planters, certain Christian scholars and institutional leaders, and those leading multiple ministries or churches often have the gift of apostleship. See also Ephesians 4:11, I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 1:21-22, 1 Corinthians 9:1.

Discernment

The spiritual gift of discernment is also known as the gift of "discernment of spirits" or "distinguishing between spirits."

The Greek word for the gift of discernment is Diakrisis.

The word describes being able to distinguish, discern, judge or appraise a person, statement, situation, or environment. In the New Testament it describes the ability to distinguish between spirits as in 1 Corinthians 12:10, and to discern good and evil as in Hebrews 5:14.

The Holy Spirit gives the gift of discernment to enable certain Christians to clearly recognize and distinguish between the influence of God, Satan, the world, and the flesh in a given situation. The church needs those with this gift to warn believers in times of danger or keep them from being led astray by false teaching. See also I Corinthians 12:10, Acts 5:3-6; 16:16-18; 1 John 4:1.

Evangelism

All Christians are called to evangelize and reach out to the lost with the Gospel (Matthew 28:18-20), but some are given an extra measure of faith and effectiveness in this area. The spiritual gift of evangelism is found in Ephesians 4:11-12 where Paul says that Jesus "gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." The Greek word for evangelists is Euaggelistes which means "one who brings good news."

This word is only found two other places in the New Testament: Acts 21:8 and 2 Timothy 4:5. Evangelists are given the unique ability by the Holy Spirit to clearly and effectively communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others. They are burdened in their hearts for the lost and will go out of their way to share the truth with them. Evangelists are able to overcome the normal fear of rejection and engage non-believers in meaningful conversations about Jesus.

Their gift allows them to communicate with all types of people and therefore they receive a greater response to the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. They continually seek out relationships with those who don't know Jesus and are open to the leading of the Holy Spirit to approach different people.

They love giving free treasure away for Jesus (2 Corinthians 4:7), and it brings them great joy knowing that the "feet that bring good news" are beautiful to those who believe (Isaiah 52:7). See Ephesians 4:11, Acts 8:5-12, 26- 40, 21:8, Matthew 28:18-20.

Exhortation
The spiritual gift of exhortation is often called the "gift of encouragement." The Greek word for this gift is Parakaleo.

It means to beseech, exhort, call upon, to encourage and to strengthen. The primary means of exhortation is to remind the hearer of the powerful and amazing work of God in Christ, particularly in regard to the saving work of Jesus in the atonement. We see Paul commanding Titus to use this gift in Titus 1:9 and throughout chapter 2, particularly Titus 2:11-15. He also charges Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:2.

The Spirit of God gives this gift to people in the church to strengthen and encourage those who are wavering in their faith. Those with the gift of exhortation can uplift and motivate others as well as challenge and rebuke them in order to foster spiritual growth and action. The goal of the encourager is to see everyone in the church continually building up the body of Christ and glorifying God. See also Romans 12:8, Acts 11:23-24; 14:21-22; 15:32.

Faith
The spiritual gift of faith is not to be confused with saving faith. All Christians have been given saving faith (Ephesians 2:8-9), but not all receive this special gift of faith. The word for faith in the New Testament is Pistis. It carries the notion of confidence, certainty, trust, and assurance in the object of faith. The gift of faith is rooted in one's saving faith in Christ and the trust that comes through a close relationship with the Savior. Those with this gift have a trust and confidence in God that allows them to live boldly for Him and manifest that faith in mighty ways.

In the Bible the gift of faith is often accompanied by great works of faith. In Acts 3:1-10 we see this gift in action when Peter sees a lame man at the Beautiful Gate and calls on him to stand up and walk in the Name of Jesus. Jesus said even a small amount of this faith could move mountains (Matthew 17:20; 21:21). Paul echoed this truth in 1 Corinthians 13:2.

The Holy Spirit distributes this gift to some in the church to encourage and build up the church in her confidence in God. Those with the gift of faith trust that God is sovereign and He is good. They take Him at His Word and put the full weight of their lives in His hands. They expect God to move and are not surprised when He answers a prayer or performs a miracle. See also I Corinthians 12:9, Hebrews 11:1-40

Giving

The Greek word for the spiritual gift of giving is Metadidomi. It simply means “to impart” or “to give.” However, this word is accompanied in Romans 12:8 by another descriptive word: Haplotes. This word tells us much more about the kind of giving that is associated with this gift. The word Haplotes means “sincerely, generously and without pretense or hypocrisy.” The Holy Spirit imparts this gift to some in the church to meet the various needs of the church and its ministries, missionaries, or of people who do not have the means to provide fully for themselves.

The goal is to encourage and provide, giving all credit to God’s love and provision. Those with this gift love to share with others the overflow of blessings God has given them. They are typically very hospitable and will seek out ways and opportunities to help others.

They are also excellent stewards and will often adjust their lifestyles in order to give more to the spread of the Gospel and the care of the needy.

They are grateful when someone shares a need with them, and are always joyful when they can meet that need. See Romans 12:8, 13, 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-15; Acts 4:32-37, Galatians 4:15, Philippians 4:10-18.

Healing

The spiritual gift of healing found in 1 Corinthians 12:9 is actually plural in the Greek. Charismata iamaton is literally translated "gifts of healings." This spiritual gift is closely related to the gifts of faith and miracles. All spiritual gifts are to be exercised in faith, but gifts of healings involve a special measure of it. This gift is interesting in that there is no guarantee that a person will always be able to heal anyone he or she desires. It is subject to the sovereign will of God, as all spiritual gifts are.

The Disciples were given authority to heal and cast out demons, but they were not always successful. The Apostle Paul was not able to heal himself and was told that God's grace was sufficient to carry him through his infirmity without removing it from him (2 Corinthians 12:7-10). This gift is given at various times and places to reveal the God of heaven to the sick and tormented. If healing is not granted, then we can conclude that God has greater plans for letting the person go through the illness or infirmity.

The spiritual gift of healing is an intimate one as it reveals the heart and compassion of God. Jesus is the Great Healer and Physician and during His ministry on earth He healed countless people and cast out demons (Matthew 4:23-24; 8:16; 9:35, Mark 1:34). Healings reveal that God is near to His people and He cares about their sufferings. Healings are meant to draw people to God through His Son Jesus Christ.

God wants those healed to respond in faith with thanksgiving and love as the leper did in Luke 17:15- 19, and as the demon-possessed man did in Mark 5:18-20. By God's grace, physical healing should lead to spiritual healing (faith in Jesus) and eternal life with Him in heaven.

Those who have this gift are compassionate toward the sick and pray over them regularly. They have great faith and trust that God can and will heal some and are not deterred when He chooses not to. They are motivated knowing that God's revealed power will draw people to faith in Jesus. Their ultimate concern is the spiritual well-being of those being healed and their relationship with Jesus. They yearn for the day that there will be no more pain and suffering, and sin will no longer wreak havoc on the people of God. See 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28, 30, James 5:13-16.

Interpretation of Tongues

The spiritual gift of interpretation of tongues is found alongside the gift of speaking in tongues in 1 Corinthians 12:10. The Greek word for interpretation is hermeneia and simply means to interpret, explain, or expound some message that is not able to be understood in a natural way. Thus, this spiritual gift is the supernatural ability to understand and explain messages uttered in an unknown language.

This is a revelatory gift, meaning that God "reveals" the meaning of the words or message being spoken and allows the interpreter to communicate its meaning to those who need to hear it. When this happens in the church two things happen: the church is edified and God is glorified. The spiritual gift of interpretation is given by the Holy Spirit to certain individuals to reveal messages spoken in an unknown tongue to God for the building up of the church.

Like the gift of prophecy, tongues that are interpreted have the effect of encouraging and blessing the church to love and serve God more deeply and effectively. See also 1 Corinthians 12:10, 30; 14:1-28.

Knowledge

The spiritual gift of knowledge is also known as the "word of knowledge" or "utterance of knowledge." The Greek word for this gift is Gnosis and it simply means knowledge and understanding. The Scriptural emphasis in 1 Corinthians 12:8 is on the ability to speak this knowledge to others in a given situation.

In the opening passages of 1 Corinthians, Paul spoke of knowledge and recognized that the highest form of knowledge among men is the Gospel of Jesus Christ (i.e. the testimony about Christ, cf. 1 Corinthians 1:4- 7). What we can conclude then is the gift of knowledge is an understanding of the things in this world and in our lives that is founded in the Gospel and rooted in the Scriptures. This gift is closely related to the gift of wisdom which is alluded to by Paul in 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.

The Holy Spirit gives this spiritual gift to some believers to bring about understanding and to inform the church or individual believers. The person with this gift is usually wellversed in the Scriptures and often has much committed to memory. They can retain the truth and communicate it effectively at the appropriate times. The gift of knowledge allows a believer to relate the Scriptures, and particularly the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to all aspects of life in this world.

They can see how it connects to every situation and circumstance and how the reality and truth of the Gospel is to inform every decision a Christian makes. See also 1 Corinthians 12:8; Romans 15:14; 2 Corinthians 2:14.

Exhortation

The spiritual gift of leadership is closely related to the gift of administration and, interestingly, the spiritual gift of pastor/ shepherd. The Greek word for the spiritual gift of leadership is proistemi. This word means to lead, to assist, to protect and to care for others. The spiritual gift of leadership is found in Romans 12:8 sandwiched between the gifts of giving and of mercy. It is placed there intentionally to show that it is a gift associated with caring for others.

This is what connects it to the gift of pastor/shepherd, and what differentiates it from the gift of administration. It is more people oriented than task oriented in its application. This is not to say those with the gift of administration do not care for people, of course they do, but those with the spiritual gift of leadership focus on people and relationships more directly.

The word proistemi is connected to caring for people in other passages as well. In 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 Paul says to “respect those who labor among you and are over (proistemi) you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work.”

The labor and work of those who were leading the believers in Thessalonica was that of tirelessly caring for their souls. Paul also connects leadership to caring for others when he asks, “If someone does not know how to manage (proistemi) his own household, how will he care for God’s church?” 1 Timothy 3:5

The Holy Spirit gives the spiritual gift of leadership to some in the church to care for God's people and lead them into deeper relationship with Christ and each other. They base their success on how well they help others succeed and grow in their spiritual walk with Jesus. They are able to accomplish many different tasks and objectives as they lead, but they will always lead relationally and with a deep concern for the well-being of others.

They are "visionary" and less concerned with mundane details than those with the spiritual gift of administration. Many are entrepreneurial and willing to take risks to see the kingdom of God advanced through the church. They will go to great lengths to protect those under their care and are well-equipped to lead through crisis situations. See also Romans 12:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:12; 1 Timothy 3:4-5, 12; 5:17.

Mercy

All Christians are called to be merciful because God has been merciful to us (Matthew 18:33; Ephesians 2:4-6). The Greek word for the spiritual gift of mercy is Eleeo. It means to be patient and compassionate toward those who are suffering or afflicted. The concern for the physical as well as spiritual need of those who are hurting is covered by the gift of mercy. Those with this gift have great empathy for others in their trials and sufferings. They are able to come alongside people over extended periods of time and see them through their healing process. They are truly and literally the hands and feet of God to the afflicted.

The Holy Spirit gives the spiritual gift of mercy to some in the church to love and assist those who are suffering, and walk with them until The Lord allows their burden to be lifted. The gift of mercy is founded in God's mercy towards us as sinners and is consistently expressed with measurable compassion. Those with this gift are able to "weep with those who weep" (Romans 12:15) and "bear one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2). They are sensitive to the feelings and circumstances of others and can quickly discern when someone is not doing well. They are typically good listeners and feel the need to simply "be there" for others. See Romans 12:8, Matthew 5:7; Luke 10:30-37; James 3:17; Jude 22-23.

Miracles

The spiritual gift of miracles is described in Scripture much like the gift of healing. It is found in 1 Corinthians 12:10 and the Greek phrase energemata dynameon literally translates "workings of powers." The double plural most likely means that these gifts were diverse and were not permanently available at the will of the gifted believer, but instead were bestowed at various times and circumstances. Thus, the gifts are subject to the divine will of God and His purposes and are not decided by the one who performs the miraculous works. We know that Jesus performed many miracles in His earthly ministry, even more than those recorded in Scripture (John 20:30-31, Acts 2:22).

The Apostles regularly performed miracles of all kinds including casting out demons, healings, raising people from the dead, striking people dead, causing blindness, and much more (Acts 2:43; 3:1-10; 5:1-16; 9:36-43; 13:4-12; 19:11 12). Other believers performed miracles as well, including Stephen (Acts 6:8) nd Phillip (Acts 8:4-8).

Miracles were given by God to the church to reveal the presence and glory of God among His people and to create a sense of awe and wonder and Godly fear. Though there were many enemies of the church, often the result of miracles being performed was more people coming to faith in Jesus and glorifying God, as well as greater faith and boldness within the church (Acts 4:29-31; 9:35, 42). Those with the spiritual gift of miracles often have a heightened sensitivity to the presence and power of God through His Holy Spirit.

They have a special measure of faith and desire for God to reveal Himself and draw many to faith in His Son Jesus Christ. They take care not to draw attention to themselves or have a following of people, but are constantly pointing others to Jesus. Those with this gift understand that God is Sovereign and He can work when and how He desires, but they make sure they are available and listening to the prompting of the Holy Spirit. This gift is often accompanied by prayer and strong petition by these individuals for God to reveal His glory to people. They do not claim power themselves, but always give credit and glory to God for His mighty works. Often God will deliberately humble them to keep them relying on His grace and pointing to His Son, rather than miracles. See also 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28-29; Acts 1:8; Galatians 3:5

Pastor / Shepherd

The spiritual gift of pastor or pastor/shepherd is one that carries many different responsibilities. This gift is closely related to the spiritual gifts of leadership and teaching. The Greek word for pastor is Poimen and simply means shepherd or overseer. In the Biblical context, shepherds had several different responsibilities to their sheep and ultimately, to the owner of the sheep.

They kept a lookout for predators and protected the sheep from attackers. They cared for wounded and sick sheep, nursing them back to health. They rescued them if they became lost or trapped. They spent enormous amounts of time with them guiding them to he places of nourishment and rest. The result was a trust and relationship that kept the sheep following the shepherd. The sheep were attuned to the shepherd's voice to the point that even if they were temporarily mixed with another herd, at the call of the shepherd they would separate and follow him.

Pastors are called shepherds because their calling and gifting are much like those who care for sheep. They are called and gifted to care for the spiritual well-being of a local body of God's people. Pastors are first and foremost servants. They are servants of God and servants of His bride, the church. They are given a mixture of abilities by grace that allows them to serve the needs of an entire community.

The goal of the pastor is to reveal the glory of God in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit to a people who need God's grace for life. The primary way the pastor will do this is by teaching the Word of God to the church. The gift of pastor is directly linked to the gift of teaching in Ephesians 4:11 and elsewhere. In fact, this gift could be called the gift of pastor-teacher. The ability to teach the Scriptures is also one of the many requirements of being an overseer (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9). By teaching the Scriptures to the church, the pastor feeds the "sheep" of God.

The Holy Spirit gives the spiritual gift of pastor to some in the church to humbly teach them, guide them, protect them, and to lead them in the mission that God has for His church, namely the Great Commission.

The pastor loves the Gospel of Jesus Christ and puts it at the center of his life and ministry. Pastors do not seek fame or recognition for themselves, but they are placed in a position of authority by the Holy Spirit. The role of a pastor is one of humility and service as he is reminded daily of his overwhelming need of God's grace for the task at hand. See also Ephesians 4:11; Jeremiah 3:15; Acts 20:28; John 10:11-18.

Prophecy

The spiritual gift of prophecy is an extraordinary and unique gift. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 14:1 to "Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy." This gift is a blessing to the church and should not be quenched or despised (1 Thessalonians 5:20). Those who have the gift of prophecy differ from the Old Testament Prophets who spoke the authoritative Word of God directly. Their words were recorded as Scripture as they proclaimed,

"Thus says The Lord," whereas the messages from those with the spiritual gift of prophecy must be tested (1 Corinthians 14:29-33; 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21; 1 John 4:1-3). In the New Testament the Apostles, not the prophets, took over the role of Scriptural proclamation from the Old Testament Prophets.

The Greek word for the gift of prophecy is propheteia which is the ability to receive a divinely inspired message and deliver it to others in the church. These messages can take the form of exhortation, correction, disclosure of secret sins, prediction of future events, comfort, inspiration, or other revelations given to equip and edify the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 14:3-4, 24-25). Again, they do not constitute the authoritative Word of God, but are the human interpretation of the revelation that was received. They are spoken in human words through a human mind which is why they must be tested against the Scriptures (1 Thessalonians 5:20-21).

The Holy Spirit gives the gift of prophecy to some believers to make God's heart known and to edify the church. This gift is for the benefit of both believers and unbelievers and is a sign that God is truly among His church (1 Corinthians 14:22-25). Those with this gift are sensitive to both the prompting of the Holy Spirit and the needs of the church body.

They should be humble and continually study the Scriptures in order to test these revelations before speaking them. When they do speak, they should allow and even expect others to weigh what is said against the Scriptures and interpret the message accordingly. In this way the church may be continually built up together in unity (1 Corinthians 14:4, 26). See also Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-5, Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:10-11.

Tongues

The spiritual gift of service, or ministering, covers a wide range of activities in its application. There are two Greek words for this gift. The first one, found in Romans 12:7, is Diakonia. The basic meaning of this word is "to wait tables," but it is most often translated in the Bible as "ministry." It refers to any act of service done in genuine love for the edification of the community. The word Antilepsis is translated "helping" and is found in 1 Corinthians 12:28. It has a similar meaning: to help or aid in love within the community.

The Holy Spirit endows some believers with this gift to fill the many gaps of ministry and meet the needs of the church as it fulfills the Great Commission. The goal is to energize the church and free up others to use their gifts to the fullest. The result is the continued edification of the church and the added ability to see beyond its own needs and reach out into the community.

We see people with this gift in passages like Acts 6:1-7, 1 Corinthians 16:15-16, and many others. Those with the gift of service are committed to the spread of the Gospel. They serve in ways that benefit others with different gifts and ministries that are more public.

They have a heart devoted to Jesus and a desire to follow His command and example in Matthew 20:25-28 (cf. Mark 10:42-45). Those with this gift do not seek recognition or a position in the "spotlight," they just love to help out. They are content with serving in the background knowing that their contribution will bless the church, display the love of Christ to the world, and bring glory to God. See also Romans 12:7, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7; 28, Acts 20:35; 2 Timothy 4:11; Revelation 2:19.

Teaching

The spiritual gift of teaching is one that carries a heavy responsibility in the church. In fact, James 3:1 warns, "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness." Like every believer, teachers are to be stewards of every word that comes out of their mouths. But the greater responsibility to which they are called is to be stewards of the Word of God to His people. Teachers have been entrusted with the task of effectively communicating what the Bible says, what it means, and how we as followers of Jesus Christ are to apply it to our lives here and now.

The Greek word for those with the spiritual gift of teaching is didaskalos. From the root of this word we get our English word, "didactic." The word didasko means to teach, instruct, instill doctrine, explain, and expound. Those with the spiritual gift of teaching love to study the Word of God for extended periods of time.

They consume the Scriptures as food for their hearts, souls and minds with the expressed purpose of knowing Him and then making Him known to others. They want to know what God has revealed of Himself and what He requires of us as people created in His image. They take great joy and satisfaction in seeing others learn and apply the truth of God's Word to their lives. They love to see how the Gospel is woven throughout the Scriptures and how it glorifies and magnifies Jesus Christ in the hearts and lives of those who love Him by grace.

The Holy Spirit gives certain people the spiritual gift of teaching so that they would help the church fulfill her ministry as "a pillar and buttress of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15). Without this gift, the church would quickly fall into error and sin. Teachers are there to make sure that doesn't happen. They hate when Scripture is abused and used out of context or with ill intent. They love the truth and speak the truth in love. They will never hide or withhold it. On the contrary, they desire to follow in the footsteps of Jesus who taught in the synagogues and in the Temple as well as anywhere the people were gathered.

They are called to demonstrate God's love while revealing His truth to the world without fear. The effect of their ministry is the upholding of God's Word and the growth and maturity of His Bride until the day of His return. See also Ephesians 4:11; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Romans 12:7; James 3:1

Serving / Ministering

The spiritual gift of tongues is more accurately called the gift of languages. The Greek word for tongues is glossa, which literally means "tongue." When it is used in the New Testament addressing the subject of spiritual gifts it carries the contextual meaning of "languages."

Speaking in tongues is the utterance of prayer or of a message glorifying God, typically spoken to God (1 Corinthians 14:2), in a language that is unknown to the one speaking it.

To properly understand this gift, we need to begin with a brief history of language in the human race. In the garden mankind had one language and was in direct communication with God, having perfect communion with Him. Unfortunately, this relationship changed at the fall when Adam sinned against God and he and Eve were cursed and banished from Eden along with their descendants. Mankind continued to have one language up until Genesis 11 where God confused their language and people were dispersed throughout the earth.

He did this because they had united together in one language and conspired to build a tower at Babel. Their intention was to "make a name" for themselves and thus replace God in their hearts. Pride is the birthplace of sin and regrettably fallen man has decided to use every advantage, including language, to usurp God's authority and place himself upon a throne which is not rightfully his.

After God confused their language and scattered them across the earth, He chose one people with one language to bring Him glory and draw mankind back to Himself. Abram, later called Abraham, was the one through whom God promised to bless "all the nations." Eventually, through the nation of Israel, the Hebrew language would be used to communicate God's Word to the nations. However, the rest of the world did not speak or understand this language and for the most part continued to remain ignorant of God's plan of redemption.

Fast forward to Pentecost and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on the people of God. Here we see a glimpse of God's reversal of the curse of divided languages. In Acts 2 people from all over the world hear God's people proclaiming His mighty works in their own languages. This is the beginning of the redemption of language for its intended purpose: to glorify God and draw all people to Himself.

In heaven an innumerable group from every nation, tribe, people and tongue will join together to praise God with one language. (See Revelation 7:9-12. This is where tongues will cease as mentioned in 1 Corinthians 13:8-10.)

The intention of the spiritual gift of tongues is to glorify God now, but also to prepare ourselves as His church to glorify Him forever in heaven. The gift however is only partial, in that it is not given to all believers, and in the context of the church requires an interpreter in order for it to be edifying.

There is much more to be said about the spiritual gift of tongues, but we will summarize a few points here:

• Not every believer receives this gift. The gift of tongues is not a requirement or a necessary sign of salvation.
See 1 Corinthians 12:30.
• Tongues can be human languages such as those heard in Acts 2, but often may be languages no one understands.
See 1 Corinthians 14:2.
• Tongues are not "ecstatic speech" but are always orderly and are able to be controlled by the one speaking. See 1 Corinthians 14:27-28, 33, 39-40

• No tongues should be spoken in the church gathering without interpretation. See 1 Corinthians 14:27-28.
• Tongues should not be forbidden. See 1 Corinthians 14:39.

The Holy Spirit gives some believers the spiritual gift of tongues to glorify God and, with the help of an interpreter, to edify the church. This gift is dealt with extensively in the Scriptures and its use should not be discouraged. That said, it should be used properly with pure motives and intentions, of course in the power and prompting of the Holy Spirit. See also 1 Corinthians 12:10, 30, 14:4, 39, Acts 2:4, Acts 19:6.

Wisdom

The spiritual gift of wisdom, like the gift of knowledge, is also referred to as the "word of wisdom" or "utterance of wisdom." The Greek word for wisdom is sophia and it refers to the intimate understanding of God's Word and His commandments which results in holy and upright living. In the context of 1 Corinthians 12:8, it means to speak to the life of an individual or to a specific situation with great understanding and a righteous perspective, with the goal of guiding others toward a life of holiness and worship.

Several Scriptures reveal the true beauty and fruit of wisdom. Psalm 111:10 says: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!" Wisdom begins with the fear of the LORD. It begins with knowing who God is and who we are in comparison to Him. That leads to understanding and then to practicing righteousness. A life of wisdom ultimately results in the praise of God.

James 3:17 says “the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.” This is undoubtedly a work of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer. The highest wisdom is found in the cross of Christ, which is “folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:18).

The Holy Spirit gives some the spiritual gift of wisdom to not only impart the truth and understanding to believers, but to invoke a response of holiness and worship lived out in the world and amongst God’s people. Wisdom doesn’t end with knowledge, but is expressed in transformed hearts and lives.

Those with the gift of wisdom have a deep understanding of the holiness of God and the lack of holiness in their own hearts. They can recognize this in others as well and have the compassion and boldness to share that truth with them.

They are able to take from their own life experiences and share what God has taught them through those things. They can easily recognize where a decision or action may lead and can warn against those that may be harmful or unfruitful. They can often see through the confusion of a situation and can give direction that would help an individual or group obtain a God-glorifying goal. The church needs those with the spiritual gift of wisdom to guide her through uncertain or difficult times. See also 1 Corinthians 1:17-31, 2:1-16, 12:8; Colossians 1:9-10, 2:1-3; James 3:13-18

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