

SUPERNATURAL GIFTS

For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established –Romans 1:11

Jesus moved in all the nine gifts of the Spirit very naturally as a lifestyle. This module will help to identify and understand the meaning and operation of each gift. We need the Gifts of the Spirit operating in our lives to fulfill the Great Commission. These Gifts are God's spiritual weapons given to the Church to help build up, fire-up and cheer-up the saints (1 Cor 14:3) and to defeat Satan and to destroy his Kingdom.

- The gift is the person of the Holy Spirit
- *Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit –Acts 2:38*
- The gifts are for the profit and common good of others. *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all –1 Cor 12:7*
- We are not to neglect to flow in the gifts given to us. *Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership –1 Tim 4:14*
- We are not to be ignorant of the gifts. *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant –1 Cor 12:1*
- We are to desire the spiritual gifts. *Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy –1 Cor 14:1*

The Supernatural gifts represent the Divine ability or power of God while the fruit of the Spirit represent the Divine Character of God.

➤ Spiritual Gifts – *Charisma*

For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills –1 Cor 12:8-11

- Extraordinary powers operating through Christian souls by the Holy Spirit

➤ (1 Cor 12:7) Manifestation Gifts – *Phanerosis*

- To make visible or put in display by the act that can be seen, heard or felt

Categories of Gifts:

- The Revelation Gifts (God informing us).
 - The Word of Wisdom
 - The Word of Knowledge
 - Discerning of Spirits

- The Power Gifts (God working through us).
 - The Gifts of Faith
 - The Gifts of Healing
 - The Working of Miracles

- The Utterance or Oral Gifts (God speaking through us).
 - The Gift of Prophecy
 - The Gift of diverse kinds of tongues
 - Interpretation of tongues

1. The Word of Wisdom

The Word of Wisdom or '*Sophia*' is supernatural revelation, or insight into the Divine will and purpose, showing **how** to solve any problem that may arise. In a difficult or dangerous situation, a word of wisdom may be given to resolve the difficulty or silence an opponent or critic. This gift is not to be confused with the wisdom of God that anyone with faith can receive (like the wisdom that James 1:5-8 talks about.)

Examples:

- Solomon and the two women with the child (1 Kings 3:16-28)
- Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream. *Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you –Gen 41:39-40*
- Jesus comments on tribute to Caesar. *So they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might seize on His words, in order to deliver Him to the power and the authority of the governor. Then they asked Him, saying, "Teacher, we know that You say and teach rightly, and You do not show personal favoritism, but teach the way of God in truth: Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But He perceived their craftiness, and said to them, "Why do you test Me? Show Me a denarius. Whose image and inscription does it have?" They answered and said, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." But they could not catch Him in His words in the presence of the people. And they marveled at His answer and kept silent –Luke 20:20-26*

- Paul in the storm at sea. *But not long after, a tempestuous head wind arose, called Euroclydon. So when the ship was caught, and could not head into the wind, we let her drive. And running under the shelter of an island called Clauda, we secured the skiff with difficulty. When they had taken it on board, they used cables to undergird the ship; and fearing lest they should run aground on the Syrtis Sands, they struck sail and so were driven. And because we were exceedingly tempest-tossed, the next day they lightened the ship. On the third day we threw the ship's tackle overboard with our own hands. Now when neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest beat on us, all hope that we would be saved was finally given up. But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.' Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me –Acts 27:14-25.*

The Word of Wisdom is a fragment, glance portion or segment of God's Omniscience (infinite and limitless wisdom and knowledge).

2. The Word of Knowledge

The word of Knowledge or '*Gnosis*' is a supernatural revelation of Divine knowledge or insight in the Divine purposes, mind, will and plans of God, and also those of men. This utterance inspired by the Holy Spirit that reveals knowledge about people, circumstances or Biblical Truth. It is connected closely with prophesy. It is not to be confused with knowledge received by study.

Examples:

- *Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it –Matt 16:16-18.*
- Jesus knew Lazarus was dead before the word came to Him. *Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead –John 11:14*
- Ananias and Sapphira. *But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? –Acts 5:3*
- Jesus knew Peter will deny Him. *Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." –Matt 26:34*

3. The Gift of Faith

The gift of Faith or '*Pistis*' is the special enabling God gives to Christians to rest in the assurance that God will do what He has revealed He would do for them, in spite of overwhelming circumstances. The gift refers to the kind of wonder-working faith that moves mountains and waits expectantly for results. It can also pertain to a supernatural surge of confidence from the Spirit of God which is different from the measure of faith every Christian has (Rom 12:3).

Examples:

- By faith Isaac invoked his blessings on Jacob (Gen 27:28)
- Daniel in the lion's den (Dan 6:23)
- Elijah raised the son of the widow of Zarephath. *And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the LORD and said, "O LORD my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him." Then the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived –1 Kings 17:21-22*
- Paul shook the snake off. *But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm –Acts 28:5*

4. Gifts of Healing

Also called '*Lama*' is the supernatural healing of diseases and infirmities without natural means of any sort. They are the miraculous manifestation of the Spirit for the banishment of all human ills whether organic, functional or nervous, acute or chronic. 'Gifts' (plural) – corresponds to different types of healing gifts.

- Evidence for God's will for the sick to be healed (Matt 8:16-17; Isa 53:4-5; Ex 15:26)

The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed – Luke 4:18

who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed –1 Pet 2:24

God heals through:

Church leadership. *Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much –James 5:14-16*

Laying on of hands –(Mk 1:40-41)

They will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover – Mk 16:18

Music. And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him –1 Sam 16:23

Through Joy or Laughter – (Prov 17:22)

Healing ministry is a spiritual warfare that, not only need the gift but also prayer, faith and perseverance.

5. Working of Miracles

'Energema-Dunamis' is translated as the manifestation of power beyond the ordinary course of natural law. It is a divine enablement to do something that could not be done naturally. Miracles are also called as wonders and mighty deeds. *Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds –2 Cor 12:12*

Examples:

- (Exodus 14:13-31) – God opens the Red Sea.
- (Acts 5:18-20) – Deliverance from Prison
- (1 Kings 17:2-7) – Ravens brought bread and meat to Elijah
- (Matt 14:13-21) – 2 fishes 5 loaves
- (John 2:7-11) – Water in wine
- (Jos 10:12-14) – Joshua stopped the sun
- (John) 11:1-44 – Lazarus raised

6. The Gift of Prophecy

'Naba' (Heb) – to speak or sing by divine inspiration, in prediction or foretell; *'Propheteia'* (Gk)

- It is a supernatural utterance birthed in your spirit by God.
- It extends to ministering a personal word of the Lord to an individual.
- To both reveal and set into motion the appropriate truth, to foretell events.

- Prophecy is not optional, it is imperative, **it is a commandment** (1 Cor 14:1, 5, 39)
- Edify, exhortation, comfort (1 Cor 14:3)
- Judge prophecy

7. Discerning of Spirits

'*Diakrisis*' is a distinguishing ability or insight into the realm of the spirit – '*pneuma*' or the spirit world. It could mean insight into the spirit world, including angels, good and evil spirits and the human spirit. However, it is principally used to detect, expose and nullify the work of the enemy.

Examples:

- Jesus knew Nathaniel. *Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you. –John 1:47-48*
- Daniel in the lion's den (Dan 6:23)
- Discover servant of the devil, by Paul. *Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? –Acts 13:9-10*
- Expose counterfeit spirits, test and try the spirits. *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error –1 John 4:1-6*

8. Diverse Kinds of Tongues

'*Glossolalia*' is a supernatural manifestation of the Holy Spirit; a Spirit inspired utterance whereby believers speak in a language [*Glossa*] they have never learned.

- Disciples spoke in tongues. *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance – Acts 2:4*
- Gentiles spoke in tongues. *And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God – Acts 10:45-46*
- By laying on of hands. *And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied – Acts 1:6*
- (Mk 16:17) Signs

- For Prayer (1 Cor 14:2,4)
- For Interpretation. *To another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues ...Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? –1 Cor 12:10, 30*
- Existing language (Acts 2:6-11)
- Tongues unknown (1 Cor 13:1)
- Mind does not understand. *For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries –1 Cor 14:2*
- For Intercession. *Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God –Rom 8:26-27*

9. Interpretation of Tongues

To enable the church to understand the meaning of a prophecy given in tongues.

But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching?

...Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret –1 Cor 14:6, 13

- Reveals mind of God (not translation)
- Must be ‘sifted’ or judged