

SERMON NOTES - Gifts of the Spirit 1 - Insight

These notes are designed to be read along with the associated audio / video message

INTRODUCTION

Jesus gave His followers the Holy Spirit in 3 increasing degrees:

1. HE WAS **WITH** THEM AS A HELPER AND FRIEND BUT WOULD BE **IN** THEM

Jhn 14:16-18 NKJV - "16 "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- 17 "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."

2. HE **INDWELT** THEM AS SOON AS HE ROSE AGAIN

Jhn 20:19, 21-22 NKJV - "19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." ... 21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

3. HE TOLD THEM TO WAIT TO BE **FILLED** (BAPTISED) BEFORE DOING ANYTHING FOR HIM

Act 1:4-5, 8 NKJV - "4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 "for John truly baptised with water, but you shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ... 8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.""

Act 2:1-4 NKJV - "1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

SIGNS AND WONDERS WERE THE RESULT:

Mar 16:14-20 NKJV - "14 Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. 15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 "He who believes and is baptised will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 "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." 19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen."

THE "GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT" DESCRIBE THIS POWER THAT IS AVAILABLE FOR US

1Co 12:4-11 NKJV - "4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 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. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."

Notice

- There are 3 categories of supernatural gifts - from the Spirit, the Son and the Father
- Each one is supposed to get at least one of these gifts

- These gifts are for the common good - for others. Not for my own benefit.

THE FIRST GROUP OF GIFTS - INSIGHT -

Word of wisdom , Word of knowledge , Discerning of Spirits

Some examples of these gifts in operation:

1. Jesus answering critics: Mat 22:15-21 NKJV - "15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk. 16 And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. 17 "Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" 18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? 19 "Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a denarius. 20 And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" 21 They said to Him, "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."
2. The Temple tax in the fish's mouth Knowledge - Mat 17:24, 27
3. Jesus with the Samaritan woman at the well - Jn 4:4-39
4. Stephen - Act 6:10 - "And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke."
5. Paul's guidance - Acts 16:6-10 NKJV - "6 Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. 7 After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. 8 So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them."
6. Jesus meeting Nathanael - Jn 1:47- 48 NKJV - "47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" 48 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.""
7. Miraculous Catch of many fish in Lake of Galilee – Luke 5:1-11
8. The paralytic healed and the pharisees' thoughts known by Jesus Mk 2:1-12 - Jesus and paralytic with his 4 friends. KNOWLEDGE (Pharisees thoughts), WISDOM (His answer), DISCERN (Knowing what was needed for his healing)
9. Peter with Ananias Sapphira - Acts 5:1-10
10. Jesus knowing different types of spirits -
 - Mt 17:21 - **this kind** does not go out except by prayer and fasting
 - Lk 13:11 - spirit of **infirmity** eighteen years
 - Mk 5:8 - **unclean** spirit
 - Mk 9:17 - **mute** spirit
11. Rich young Ruler and Jesus knowing his heart - Mat 19:16
12. Paul in Philippi, - Spirit of Divination - Acts 16:16-18
13. Paul & Elymas - blindness - Act 13:8-11
14. Peter with Simon sorcerer - Act 8:23 NKJV - "23 "For I see that you are poisoned by **bitterness** and bound by **iniquity**.""

WE ALL HAVE ALL OF THESE AVAILABLE TO US... but not all as YOUR Holy Spirit gift:
Luk 21:14-15 NIV - "14 But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. 15 For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict."

1Co 2:6-16 NKJV — "6 However, we speak **wisdom** among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. 7 But we speak the **wisdom** of God

in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, 8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man, The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**. 15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. 16 For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the **mind of Christ**."

Jas 1:5 NKJV — "5 If any of you lacks **wisdom**, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

2Pe 1:3 NKJV — "3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the **knowledge** of Him who called us by glory and virtue,"

2Pe 1:5-8 NKJV — "5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue **knowledge**," 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness," 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the **knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ."

2Pe 3:18 NKJV — "18 but grow in the grace and **knowledge** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen."

Rom 10:1-3 NKJV — "1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. 2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but **not according to knowledge**. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God."

1Th 5:21 NKJV — "21 **Test** all things; hold fast what is good."

Mat 7:15- 16 NKJV — "15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves." 16 "You will know them by their fruits."

1Jo 4:1-3 NKJV — "1 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."

CONCLUSION

- It's a GIFT - it cannot be earned or deserved
- There's a gift FOR YOU - Yes - for YOU
- HOW to receive it ...**ASK** - Lk 11:11-13, **ACT** - Acts 2 & Mat 14:28.

Luk 11:11-13 NKJV - "11 "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 "Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Act 2:4 — "4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Mat 14:28-29 NKJV - "28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus."

Small group discussion guidelines

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

1 - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like:

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

2 - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

3 - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do PRACTICALLY in response to this teaching?

4 - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, "how can we pray for you / each other now?"
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person's need

The blessing and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.