

Understanding Spiritual Gifts

Part 11

May 28, 2017



River of Life
COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Three Groups of Gifts From 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Wisdom (Revelation) Gifts

- Word of Knowledge
- Word of Wisdom
- Discerning of Spirits

Prophetic Gifts

- Gift of Prophecy
- Gift of Tongues
- Interpretation of Tongues

Today: Gifts of Power

- Gifts of Healings
- Gifts of Miracles
- Gift of Faith

Three Gifts of Power: Gift of faith, Gift of healings and Working of miracles

Gift of Faith: A supernatural measure of faith directed toward some special purpose; often given in times of special crisis or opportunity, and characterized by overwhelming assurance and an inability to doubt.

- Scripture says that every man is dealt a measure of faith, and that our faith can grow as we hear the Word of God. That is normal faith.
- The gift of faith, though, is a special measure of faith above the faith that we usually have. It can literally mean an inability to doubt!
- Honestly, it can be hard to distinguish between these three gifts – they often work together, i.e. Acts 19:11-12, “And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.”

Gift of faith: Scriptural examples:

1 Samuel 17; Kings 18:33-35; Acts 3:4-16; Acts 9:40

Acts 3:1-16 (NIV)

*Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ² And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. ³ Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. ⁴ And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" ⁷ **And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.** ⁸ And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹ And all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. - NIV*

Gift of Faith

Applications of the gift of faith

- To bring God's deliverance
- To overcome insurmountable odds on behalf of God's kingdom
- The gift of faith often works closely in conjunction with healing and miracles.
- Supernatural provision to accomplish God's purposes (financial)
- Often this gift of faith is appropriated through the spoken word. The person being used in this way speaks confidently of God's provision before it actually happens (Elijah - it will not rain . . .)
- There is an inability to doubt because the person has received revelation from God.
 - Speaking in faith based on God's revealed Word
 - When is it faith? When is it presumption? Has God spoken?
 - Distinguish between revelation from God and your own emotional desires – this is a key point of maturity for followers of Jesus

Gifts of healing

Provided for the healing of different kinds of sickness or diseases, apart from healing by natural means. This gift is imparted often through the laying on of hands or proclamation of a “word” from God.

Scriptures: Mark 16:17-18; Matthew 8:14-17; James 5:14-15 (Notice how the prayer of faith and healing are related.); Mark 6:13; Isaiah 53:5; Acts 8:4-8

Matthew 8:14-17 ¹⁴When Jesus came into Peter’s house, he saw Peter’s mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. ¹⁵He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him. ¹⁶When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. ¹⁷This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.”

Gifts of Healing

Applications of the Gifts of Healing

- To reveal God's love by relieving human suffering through the grace and power of God
- To authenticate God's Word and witness in the world
- To reveal God's ultimate intention to restore all things as His Kingdom is established
- Getting Confirmation of Healing: [Mark 1:44](#) ""See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them."
- If you have been authentically healed – It is right and proper to get this confirmed by your physician. (Caveat, beware physicians/ Medical personnel who are anti-faith)

Gifts of Healings

The root of the sickness will determine how you minister healing to a person. Roots of sickness: (Beware of formulas)

1. Spiritual – demonic oppression or affliction, curses, generational strongholds & patterns of disease
2. Organic/ Physical Injury – natural injury, organic disease caused by infection, effects of aging,
3. Sin – Lifestyle problems caused by disobedience to God
 - Curses can be self-imposed through sin or imposed by the enemy:
 - [1 Corinthians 11:27-30](#) So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup. For if you eat the bread or drink the cup without honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God's judgment upon yourself. That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died.

Gifts of Healings

3. Sin – Lifestyle problems caused by disobedience to God
(cont.) Stress or disease can be caused by:

- *Rebellion*
- *Unforgiveness*
- *Unhealed spiritual wounds – injustices in our lives*
- *Sexual immorality*
- *Bitterness*
- *Slander & Accusation*
- *Envy and Jealousy*
- *Rejection*
- *Occultism*
- *Addictions*
- *Anger & Rage*
- *Walking in fear and anxiety*
- *Etc.*
- *Caution*

Gifts of Healings

Roots of sickness:

4. Stewardship of our health- God expects us to be good managers of our body and health!

- Can we dishonor God in stewardship of our health and then expect God to do miracles?
- Do we overload our body (sugars, fat, sodas, gluttony, etc.)
- Do you honor the Sabbath and rest? (The day vs. the principle)
- Is exercise part of your life?

Gifts of Healings

Roots of sickness:

5. “Sickness unto death” – Healing is temporary until Jesus’ returns and establishes His Kingdom fully in the earth

- John 11:1-4, “A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. This is the Mary who later poured the expensive perfume on the Lord’s feet and wiped them with her hair. Her brother, Lazarus, was sick. So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, “Lord, your dear friend is very sick.” But when Jesus heard about it he said, “Lazarus’s sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this.” – NIV
- John 9:3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him.
- Sickness is part of the natural order in our broken world
- Healing is a supernatural suspension of the natural order
- Sickness will be totally eradicated when Jesus returns to set up His eternal Kingdom – Revelation 21:1-7

Gifts of miracles

An event that overrides or defies the natural laws or system of order in the universe, by God's power and will.

Scriptures: Exodus 14:21-31, Joshua 10:12-14, 1 Kings 17:8-16, Matthew 14:22-23, Mark 6:38-44, Acts 8:39-40

Acts 8:39-40 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea. - NIV

Gifts of Miracles

Applications of the Gifts of Healing

- to bring deliverance to God's people
- to confirm God's Word and witness, to aid the spreading of the Gospel
- to meet a crisis need



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