

Revelation Gifts

Gifts that reveal

Kingdom Collective

Series: Gifts of the Spirit | *unity in diversity*

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1 Corinthians 12:1-7 NKJV

(UNITY IN DIVERSITY)

Theology

- Permission to study God for yourself and form your personal set of beliefs. Have conviction about what you believe in your heart and also continue to invite the Lord to expand your belief.
- While also submitting to the beliefs of the house of God where you are planted.
- You don't want your theology to simply be handed down hierarchically without any conviction and ownership on your part.
- There will be diversity in the detail and also alignment in the things that matter most. Then, ultimately, there is *unity in diversity*. There is a strength that comes from our common belief and a respect resulting from our differences.

God's melting pot

- Our differences represent God's beauty yet also become a bullseye for the enemy. He's already aiming at our differences.
- In reality, there is no unity without diversity. And diversity comes with challenge, irritation, confrontation, etc...but can be worked through in love.
- Consider the diversity the Apostle Paul was dealing with in the Corinthian church:
 - Jews and "Gentile dogs" worshipping together
 - Women and men on equal ground in a patriarchal society (where men overpower women)
 - Rich and poor interfacing in a caste system
 - Slave masters and slaves worshipping in unity
- Our diversities today pale in comparison to that of the early church. Yet how many times do the insignificant things "ruffle our feathers."

- Experts estimate there are at least 10,000 Christian denominations in the world today – because we don't do "unity in diversity" well.
- My challenge: respect our differences, embrace our common ground, boldly pursue Jesus together!

(GIFTS OVERVIEW)

God Gives Gifts		
Father's Gifts	Son's Gifts	Spirit's Gifts
Rom. 12:6-8	Eph. 4:11-12	1 Cor. 12:8-10
creational motivational a passion to serve from	public office ministry a structure to lead from	special use manifestation a power to function from

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

- There are 9 gifts of the Spirit listed here and also 9 fruits of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23. The number 9 represents grace! God's fruit and His gifts are all an act of His grace. We didn't deserve it or earn it. He is a good Father. His life in us bears good fruit and allows us to functions in good gifts.

Gifts of the Spirit

Revelation Gifts	Power Gifts	Utterance Gifts
word of wisdom	faith	prophecy
word of knowledge	healings	tongues
discerning of spirits	miracles	interpretation of tongues
God's mind gifts that reveal	God's hand gifts that do	God's voice gifts that say

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

Our natural mind loves to compartmentalize with straight lines and neat little boxes (i.e. lawn and landscaping). But that's not how God is. He is no longer contained to a box like He was in the Old Testament (ark of the covenant). The Holy Spirit is like the wind, flowing freely and beautifully.

(FATHER OF LIGHTS)

How do the gifts flow?

James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

- God is light, and light is made up of a spectrum of colors where they bleed and blend into one another.
- Example: The rainbow is made up of 7 colors
 - 7 just so happens to be the biblical number of completion and perfection
 - Yet all the colors blend together to make up the beauty of the rainbow – which is unity in the diversity
- The reception of these gifts isn't black and white, they are living color!
 - They can flow through pictures, words, art, expressions, the five senses, etc.

So determining specifically which gift was in operation and how it should flow isn't always the point. Instead, we should be asking if the Holy Spirit is moving and leading us to a greater revelation of Jesus.

Example: Sentence structure - We don't say, "I have something to tell you, which is made up of two nouns three verbs an adjective and a conjunction." We just talk, but we

understand the structure behind it because if we didn't it would be messy and incomplete. So we don't want to be ignorant or uninformed, yet we desire to operate in the gifts with simplicity and practicality.

Which gift do I have?

- Do you have one gift or could you have multiple? You may have a primary gift or two, yet God also wants to use you as a vessel for whatever is needed at the time.
- Example: Car accident scene and a word in tongues.
- Example: I love to cut the grass, but you may hire someone to cut yours and haven't touched a mower in years. But if I'm going on vacation and really need to someone to cut my grass, you can handle it.
- Pastor Lee Cummings in his book *School of the Spirit* says, "If we think only certain people have certain gifts available to them, then we are mistaken. The truth is, you will operate with the Holy Spirit in a particular gift or couple of gifts at a time according to God's will for a particular situation; however, every gift is available to every believer all the time."

(REVELATION GIFTS)

God's mind - gifts that reveal

1 Corinthians 2:9-10, 16 - "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. But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit...we have the mind of Christ."

Word of wisdom

- Definition: A divine answer or plan to a particular challenge or problem
- Scripture:
 - Acts 11:28 - Agabus saw there was going to be a great famine and the disciples sent relief
 - Genesis 41 - Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams with a word of wisdom (7 years of plenty and 7 years of famine)
 - Jonah 3:4 - Nineveh will be destroyed in 40 days if the people didn't repent
 - Matthew 17:27 - Jesus told Peter to catch a fish and the temple tax would be in its mouth
- Example: "That doesn't sound very life-giving."
- Noteworthy:
 - Oftentimes present or future tense

- It reveals the purpose of God (heaven's strategy) to specific situation through supernatural advice or insight
- There is often a profound simplicity to a word of wisdom

Word of knowledge

- Definition: Supernatural revealing of specific information, often pertaining to a person or event, for a specific purpose
- Scripture:
 - Acts 9:10 - God showed Ananias in a vision that he was to go to Judas' house and there would be a man called Saul of Tarsus praying, who had been blinded.
 - John 4:17-18 - Jesus tells the woman at the well, "...for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband..."
- Example:
 - "Is that a Lotus flower tattoo?"
- Noteworthy:
 - Oftentimes the specific knowledge is past or present tense
 - This exceeds natural knowledge
 - It is not for gossip, or to embarrass. Instead, it used to captivate someone's attention, provoke their faith to believe, and lead them to freedom.
 - Also akin to hearing the voice of God and prophecy

Discerning of spirits

- Definition: The ability to discern the spirit world, especially to detect the spirit behind circumstances or people.
- Scripture:
 - Acts 16:16-18 - A slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination followed Paul around for many days bringing distractions. "Paul, greatly annoyed...said to the spirit...in the name of Jesus Christ come out of her. And it came out that very hour."
 - Matthew 16:23 - Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Get behind Me, Satan."
- Example: Restaurant at Purdue University
- Noteworthy:
 - There are only two kingdoms: light and darkness; good and evil
 - You can have a sensitivity to the spirit realm
 - This is different than general discernment and good judgement
 - We don't pride yourselves on this. Stewardship is really serious business.

- Ephesians 6:12 aligns with this - "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

(ANCHORING STATEMENTS)

- Fear God, pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts. (1 Corinthians 14:1)
- Love and humility authenticate spiritual gifts.
- Applied faith takes risks.
- God is the giver of the gifts. We are the stewards.
 - "It is required in stewards that one be found faithful." (1 Corinthians 4:2)
 - "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10)

(CLOSING - Application)

The importance of the revelation gifts in affecting change in our world:

"Oftentimes, we walk blindly into places because we are more comfortable operating in our flesh than we are in the power of the Holy Spirit. When that happens by default, whatever spirit is governing that environment begins to influence us. This does not have to happen." -Pastor Lee Cummings

We don't just want to talk about it, we want to be about it. We don't just want to understand it, we want to experience it. We don't just want to teach it, we want to practice it.