

# Discussion Guide

## Sunday Sermon 3.8.26



### Understanding Spiritual Gifts Continued...

This guide is designed to help your family or group take what was taught on Sunday and move from simply hearing the information to applying it in ways that build up and encourage one another. Feel free to adjust the depth and number of questions based on your time and the size of your group.

### Access the Sermon on the Website & App:

[Click Here](#)

**OLIVET**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

### How to Access the OBC App?

- 1 Open your App Store
- 2 Search "Olivet Baptist"
- 3 Download the App
- 4 Open & Create an Account
- 5 Access all of our resources!

The smartphone screen displays the app interface with the following content:

- Top status bar: 9:28, signal strength, Wi-Fi, and battery icons.
- Header: OBC logo, signal strength, Wi-Fi, and search icons.
- Image: A church building with the text "Sunday Mornings" overlaid in a script font.
- Text: "Sunday Mornings" and "Join us each week as we worship together".
- Image: A microphone and headphones with the text "PODCAST FEEDBACK FORM".
- Text: "Podcast Feedback Form".
- Bottom navigation bar: Home, Media, Giving, Events, and Bible icons.

---

### Open in Prayer

Ask God to:

- Help your group understand these gifts biblically.
- Expose any self-centered attitudes toward spiritual gifts.
- Make each person a "willing vessel" for the Spirit to build others up.

---

## Read the Passage Together

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1–11 aloud, then re-read verses 8–10.

*Optional: Have different people read in different translations.*

---

## Observation & Understanding

### Big Picture Questions

What repeated words or ideas do you notice in verses 4–11?  
(Examples: “same Spirit,” “same Lord,” “same God,” “to each one,” “for the common good.”)

According to verse 7, what is the stated purpose of the manifestations of the Spirit?

According to verse 11, who decides how the gifts are distributed, and what does that tell us about how we should think of spiritual gifts?

---

## Walking Through the Gifts (vv. 8–10)

Use these definitions (from the sermon) to guide discussion. You don’t have to cover every question—pick those most relevant to your group.

### 1) Word of Wisdom

Definition: The Spirit-enabled ability to apply God’s truth to specific situations for the good of the body.

1. How is a “word of wisdom” different from just giving someone good advice or sharing your opinion?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 1:22–24. How does Paul connect true wisdom to Christ and the cross?
3. Have you ever received a timely, Christ-centered insight from someone that fit your situation exactly and helped you spiritually? What happened, and how did it build you up?

4. How might we position ourselves to be ready for the Spirit to give us a “word of wisdom” for others (think Scripture intake, prayer, attentiveness to people)?
- 

## **2) Word of Knowledge**

Definition: The Spirit-enabled ability to know something about a situation that one could not know without it being supernaturally revealed.

1. How is this different from simply being perceptive or “good at reading people”?
  2. Why must this gift always be used with humility and love?
  3. Can you think of a time (in Scripture or in your own life) when God used someone to uncover a hidden motive, sin, or need—not to shame, but to help and restore?
  4. How does knowing the purpose of this gift (edification, not embarrassment) shape the way we would respond if we believe God is showing us something about someone?
- 

## **3) Faith**

Definition: Not saving faith (which all believers have), but a Spirit-given confidence that God will act in a specific situation for His glory, even when circumstances seem impossible.

1. Read Numbers 13:25–33 and 14:6–9. How do Joshua and Caleb display something like this gift of faith compared to the other spies?
  2. Describe someone you’ve known who seemed to have this kind of settled confidence in God in hard situations. How did their faith affect you or others?
  3. In our church or small group, what kinds of situations especially need people with this gift (e.g., big decisions, crises, church planting, evangelism)?
  4. Where in your own life are you currently tempted to say, “We can’t”? What might it look like to ask God to increase your faith or to use others’ faith to strengthen you?
- 

## **4) Gifts of Healings**

Definition: The Spirit-enabled ability for a believer to be an instrument through whom God performs healing (physical, emotional, or spiritual), as He wills.

1. Why is it important that both “gifts” and “healings” are plural? What does that suggest about how and when God heals?
  2. Read 2 Timothy 4:20 and 1 Timothy 5:23. What do these verses tell us about Paul’s ability to heal, and about healing not being something we control at will?
  3. Share (if you’re comfortable) a time when God brought healing—physical, emotional, or spiritual—into your life. Did He use another person as an instrument? How did that experience build you up or change you?
  4. How should we respond:
    - a. When God does heal (in any form)?
    - b. When He does not heal in the way we hoped?
- 

## 5) Working of Miracles

Definition: The Spirit enabling a believer to accomplish a supernatural act that displays God’s power to accomplish His purposes and authenticate the gospel.

1. Read Hebrews 2:3–4. According to these verses, why did God accompany the gospel with signs, wonders, and various miracles?
  2. When you hear “miracle,” what do you normally think of? How does this passage (and the sermon) challenge or correct your view?
  3. Be honest: When you’ve prayed for a miracle, has your focus usually been more on (a) your comfort and escape, or (b) God’s glory, the spread of the gospel, and the building up of others? Explain.
  4. How can we begin to pray for miracles in a more God-centered, mission-oriented way?
- 

## Purpose & Posture: Do We Really Care About Others?

The sermon ended with a strong challenge: Spiritual gifts only make sense if we genuinely care about others and about God’s mission.

### Heart-Check Questions

Discuss openly, with grace and honesty:

1. When you think about spiritual gifts, what is usually your first thought:
  - a. “How can I experience something?” or
  - b. “How can I be used to build others up?”

2. Are there ways you've made the Christian life, or even the church gathering, mostly about "checking the box" or meeting your own needs and preferences? What might repentance look like?
  3. What things in your life currently distract you most from hearing "the cries of the world around you" (e.g., job, hobbies, media, bitterness, busyness)?
  4. Where do you see God already using you to build others up (even if you don't know what to call the "gift")? How can you lean into that more intentionally?
  5. What would it look like, practically this week, to say to God, "I want to be a willing vessel. However You want to work through me—for wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, or miracles—for someone else's good, I'm available"?
- 

### **Application: Putting It into Practice This Week**

Invite each person to identify one specific next step:

1. Someone you will intentionally encourage, counsel, or pray for, asking God for a word of wisdom or faith for them.
  2. A person you know who is hurting (physically, emotionally, or spiritually) for whom you will pray for healing—and be present with them.
  3. An area of your life where you will repent of self-focus and ask God to re-align you to His mission and His people.
- 

### **Prayer Time**

1. Thank God for His grace-gifts and for the Spirit who works "as He wills" thru each member of the body
  2. Confess any self-centered attitudes toward spiritual gifts, church, or mission.
  3. Ask God to:
    - a. Make your group sensitive to the needs and "cries" around you.
    - b. Release, in His timing and way, words of wisdom, knowledge, faith, healings, and miracles through your group—for His glory and the building up of His church.
  4. Pray specifically for people in your church/body who are hurting or in difficult situations, asking God to work powerfully for their good and His purposes.
-