

Life Tracks

# MOVEMENT

Living the  
Spirit Filled Life

*From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.*

*John 7:38b NASB*


## Instructor's Copy



**ncctk**) North County  
Christ the King

one church. many locations.

[www.ncctk.com](http://www.ncctk.com)



**BEING FILLED AND  
STRENGTHENED BY  
THE HOLY SPIRIT**

# BEING FILLED AND STRENGTHENED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

You and I were designed to live dependent on someone else's power. We were not created to live dependent only on our own intellect, abilities or skills, but to be filled and dependent on the power and grace of someone who would live inside of us. That's why Christ said it was to the advantage of the disciples that He go away. He would send His Spirit who would live within us.

*"But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' "But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. (John 16:5-7)*

*I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. (John 14:16,17)*

## WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- He is the 3rd PERSON of the Trinity, distinct from but coequal with God the Father and God the Son.
- While a complete understanding of the Trinity defies our full understanding, it is solidly revealed in scripture, and its belief is essential to the claims and power of salvation through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.
- It is actually encouraging, inspiring and comforting to know that our simple minds cannot truly grasp the beauty, power and essential nature of our triune God, the creator of all things!
- The Holy Spirit lives in Christ's followers glorifying Jesus: guiding, correcting, and interceding on our behalf.

We became believers through the Holy Spirit convicting us of our sin and revealing Jesus Christ to us. He caused us to be born again.

*And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment. (John 16:8)*

*Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. "Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again. The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.'" (John 3:5-8)*

*You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to the mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor 12:2-3)*

The moment we believed in Christ and confessed Him as our Savior the Holy Spirit came to live in us.

*Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? (1 Cor 3:16)*

*For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. (1 Cor 12:13)*

*By this we know that we abide in Him and He is in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. (1 Jn 4:13)*

God's plan is for every believer in Christ to be filled with the Holy Spirit! That is the normal Christian life.

*So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened. Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? 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? (Luke 11:9-13)*

*Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, "From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39)*

His fullness is available to all believers regardless of age, race, gender, location or past sinfulness. He is inexhaustible and has the resources to empower, encourage, comfort, equip and sustain every believer to maximum effectiveness - everywhere, all the time. He has all the characteristics of God because He is God.

*'And it shall be in last days,' God says, 'That I will pour forth My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; Even on my bondslaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit and they shall prophesy.' (Acts 2:17-18)*

*Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. (Psalm 139:7-8)*

The Holy Spirit wants to fill you and transform you so Christ can be glorified in you. He wants to help you:

- Conquer your flesh
- Display His fruits
- Use His gifts
- Love others through you
- Make you bold for Jesus!

*but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty, But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. (1 Cor 3:16-18)*

# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE FILLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT? HOW DO WE KNOW WHEN WE ARE FILLED?

At the heart of being filled with the Spirit is:

## 1. Relinquishing control of your life to His total control.

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God. (Rom 8:14-16)*

## 2. Receiving His grace to overcome "flesh" responses to life's challenges and temptations and respond like Christ did.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. (Gal. 5:22-23)*

*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh- for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. (Rom 8:11-13)*

## 3. Receiving supernatural ability to do what is humanly impossible. Here is a list of what the Holy Spirit did in the book of Acts when believers were filled by Him:

- Boldness
- Love
- Unity
- Favor
- Working of Miracles
- Grace for Suffering
- Order and Effectiveness
- Supernatural Manifestations
- Great Harvests of Changed Lives
- Guidance
- Authority over Demonic Powers

# HOW DO I RECEIVE THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

## By faith-filled surrender to His Lordship and control!

*Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, "From his innermost being will flow rivers of )living water." But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39)*

*but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth. (Acts 1:8)*

*"So I say to you ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you "For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened."Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? "Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? "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?" (Luke 11:9-13)*

# HOW DO I KNOW WHEN I'M LIVING FILLED?

1. When I act like Jesus did – His character and response.
2. When I'm experiencing supernatural boldness, compassion, and a willingness even to suffer and die for Christ.
3. When there is a growing selflessness and ready servanthood that oozes out of my life.
4. When His grace and power enable me to do what I know is humanly impossible.

# WHAT PREVENTS OR BLOCKS THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

**Fear** \_\_\_\_\_ of being out of my own control.

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God. (Romans 8:14-16)*

**Pride** \_\_\_\_\_ and self-reliance: not really willing to live off His resources.

*But He gives a greater grace Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." Submit therefore to God Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. (James 4:6-8)*

**Hatred** \_\_\_\_\_ and bitterness: refusing to forgive others as Christ forgave you.

*Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:30-32)*

**Unconfessed** \_\_\_\_\_ sin and/or denial of sin.

*This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us. (1 John 1:5-10)*

**Hurt** \_\_\_\_\_ or offense toward someone about something.

*Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering. (Matthew 5:23-24)*

**Fatigue** \_\_\_\_\_ and busyness.

*But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (Matthew 6:33)*

*For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17)*

**When we ask the Holy Spirit to fill us daily, He can do in and through us things we never thought were possible.**

*That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love... (Ephesians 3:16-17)*

*Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21)*

# A PRAYER FOR INVITING THE LORD TO FILL YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Dear Lord Jesus,  
I thank You and praise You for  
Your love and faithfulness to me.  
My heart is filled with joy whenever I think  
of the great gift of salvation You have so freely given me,  
and I humbly glorify You, Lord Jesus,  
For You have forgiven me all my sins  
and brought me to the Father.  
Now I come in obedience to Your call.  
I want to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit.  
I do not come because I am worthy myself,  
but because You have invited me to come.  
Because You have washed me from my sins,  
I thank You that You have made the vessel of my life  
a worthy one to be filled with the Holy Spirit of God.  
I want to overflow with Your life,  
Your love and Your power, Lord Jesus.  
I want to show forth Your grace,  
Your words,  
Your goodness, and  
Your gifts  
to everyone I can.  
And so, with simple, childlike faith, I ask You Lord,  
Fill me with the Holy Spirit.

I open all of myself to You,  
to receive all of Yourself in me.  
I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice in praise to You.  
I welcome Your might and Your miracles  
to be manifested in me  
for Your glory  
and unto Your praise.  
*Dr. Jack Hayford*

It is not necessary to say "Amen" at the end of this prayer, because after inviting Jesus to fill you, it is good to begin to praise Him in faith. Praisefully worship Jesus and simply allow the Holy Spirit to help you do so. He will manifest Himself in a Christ glorifying way, and you can ask Him to enrich this moment by causing you to know the presence and power of the Lord Jesus. Do not hesitate to expect the same things in your experience as occurred to people in the Bible. The spirit of praise is an appropriate way to express that expectation, and to make Jesus your focus, worship as you praise. Glorify Him and leave the rest to the Holy Spirit.

## AS YOU WALK

As you walk in the fullness of the Holy Spirit, the following areas are places where you may experience His influence and power in daily life. Check three boxes that represent areas for prayer and expectant faith at this time in your life. Meditate on these scriptures as you rest in His presence.

*"Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift He promised, as I told you before. John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 1:4b,5)*

### **Boldness**

*And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. (Acts 4:31)*

*But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. "And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him." (Acts 5:29-32)*

### **Love**

*And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. (Acts 2:44-45)*

### **Unity**

*Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, (Acts 2:46)*

*And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but)all things were common property to them. And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales (Acts 4:32-34)*

### **Favor**

*praising God and having favor with all the people And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved. (Acts 2:47)*

## ❑ Working of Miracles

*Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer. And a man who had been lame from his mother's womb was being carried along, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, in order to beg alms of those who were entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he began asking to receive alms. But Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, "Look at us!" And he began to give them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene--walk!" And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened. With a leap he stood upright and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God; and they were taking note of him as being the one who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple to beg alms, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. While he was clinging to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them at the so-called portico of Solomon, full of amazement. (Acts 3:1-11)*

*At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's portico. But none of the rest dared to associate with them; however, the people held them in high esteem. And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to their number, to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one of them. Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed. (Acts 5:12-16)*

## ❑ Grace for Suffering

*The crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off them and proceeded to order them to be beaten with rods. When they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely; and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. (Acts 16:22-26)*

## ❑ Order and Effectiveness

*Now at this time while the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch. And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them. The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith. (Acts 6:1-7)*

## ☐ Supernatural Manifestations

*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" "And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?" "Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia Pontus and Asia Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs--we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God." And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" (Acts 2:1-12)*

## ☐ Great Harvests of Changed Lives

*Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:38-41)*

## ☐ Guidance

*They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. (Acts 16:6-10)*

## ☐ Authority over Demonic Powers

*It happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling. Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, "These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation." She continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out at that very moment. (Acts 16:16-18)*





**HEARING AND  
BEING LED BY  
THE HOLY SPIRIT**

# HOW TO HEAR AND BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

## **1. Believe the Holy Spirit wants to continually speak to you, empower you and lead you into a fruitful life for Christ.**

The Holy Spirit loves to communicate with you. He even loves to fellowship with you and be your best friend. He is always available and willing to give us what we need when we need it, but we must come to Him in faith and ask for it. He wants to glorify Christ through you and transform us to radiate Jesus to those who need it.

*Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, "From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39)*

*I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. (John 14:16-17)*

*But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. (John 16:13-14)*

*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God. (Romans 8:11-16)*

*that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us (Ephesians 3:16-20)*

## **2. Hunger to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying.**

The more you desire for Him to speak to you and the greater permission you give Him to be your Lord, Counselor and Comforter, the greater your intimacy with Him will be. Nothing satisfies our spirit more or gives life to us than hearing the Holy Spirit. He fills the hungry with good things not only for them, but also for others.

*But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:4)*

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. (Matthew 5:6)*

*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8) He who has ears to hear, let him hear. (Matthew 11:15)*

*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. (John 6:63)*

*For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17)*

*He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. (Revelation 2:7)*

### **3. Embrace the learning process of hearing His voice.**

Like any skill or ability it takes time, trial and error, and perseverance to grow in your ability to hear the Holy Spirit. This is a life giving skill and worth the pain and persistence it takes to develop.

*Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD before Eli And word from the LORD was rare in those days, visions were infrequent. It happened at that time as Eli was lying down in his place (now his eyesight had begun to grow dim and he could not see well), and the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God was, that the LORD called Samuel; and he said, "Here I am." Then he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called yet again, "Samuel!" So Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he answered, "I did not call, my son, lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, nor had the word of the LORD yet been revealed to him. So the LORD called Samuel again for the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli discerned that the LORD was calling the boy. And Eli said to Samuel, "Go lie down, and it shall be if He calls you, that you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Then the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for Your servant is listening." The LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. "In that day I will carry out against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. "For I have told him that I am about to judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knew, because his sons brought a curse on themselves and he did not rebuke them. "Therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever." So Samuel lay down until morning. Then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD But Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. Then Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." He said, "What is the word that He spoke to you? Please do not hide it from me. May God do so to you, and more also, if you hide anything from me of all the words that He spoke to you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the LORD; let Him do what seems good to Him." Thus Samuel grew and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fail. All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the LORD. And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, because the LORD revealed Himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD. (1 Samuel 3:1-21)*

Having a mature mentor helps us test what we are learning so we become more and more confident in our ability to hear.

*Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe. Until I come, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching. Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress will be evident to all. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you. (1 Timothy 4:12-16)*

#### **4. Be ready to obey whatever the Holy Spirit tells you to do when He speaks to you.**

Obedience is critical to develop and deepen intimacy. Doing what He tells you to do sets you up to receive more and more revelation in every area of your life. Disobedience blocks further revelation. The Holy Spirit will keep speaking to you about an area in your life until you obey or your denial is so strong that He uses painful circumstances to break through your resistance. Hardness of heart makes hardness in hearing so we must watch over our hearts with all diligence in order that our hearts are tender and receptive to what He is saying to us.

*He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him. (John 14:21)*

*Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. "He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me. (John 14:23-24)*

*"So, when they had solemnly testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they started back to Jerusalem, and were preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans. But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. (Acts 8:25-31)*

*Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake." So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 9:10-17)*

*Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS, WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED ME BY TESTING ME, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS. "THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS'; AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'" (Hebrews 3:7-11)*

*Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. (Proverbs 4:23)*

Doing what He tells you to do sets you up to receive more and more revelation.

**5. Understand and actively pursue all the ways the Holy Spirit speaks to us as believers, but focus on hearing from His primary source of revelation.**

The Word is His Word to us. He inspired it and watched over its collection and preservation. It is the primary way He chooses to speak to us today because He is the Spirit of truth, and the Word of God is absolute truth. He guides us into all truth through leading us to understand the Word of God.

*All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105)*

*The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. (Psalm 119:130)*

**Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you as you study His Word.**

Know the context of what you are reading so you accurately contextualize the message and effectively apply it in your life. When He speaks, there is a clear, piercing sense of comfort or conviction about sin, or something you need to do, or courage to act, or clarity about something you need clarified. His voice is like fire: it ignites, it warms, it cleanses and it provides light.

*For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. (Hebrews 4:12-13)*

*Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He were going farther. But they urged Him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is getting toward evening, and the day is now nearly over." So He went in to stay with them. When He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. They said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:27-32)*

### **Seek to hear Him during personal and corporate worship.**

He loves to speak to us as we exalt God our Father and His Son. He ministers deeply to the deepest need of our hearts as we focus on adoring Christ. Often He uses a line of a song or brings to mind a scripture. He even speaks to us prophetically as our hearts and minds are riveted on God and not ourselves.

*When the priests came forth from the holy place (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without regard to divisions), and all the Levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun, and their sons and kinsmen, clothed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps and lyres, standing east of the altar, and with them one hundred and twenty priests blowing trumpets in unison when the trumpeters and the singers were to make themselves heard with one voice to praise and to glorify the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice accompanied by trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and when they praised the LORD saying, "He indeed is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting," then the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God. (2 Chronicles 5:11-14)*

*Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the house. The priests could not enter into the house of the LORD because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD'S house. All the sons of Israel, seeing the fire come down and the glory of the LORD upon the house, bowed down on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave praise to the LORD, saying, "Truly He is good, truly His lovingkindness is everlasting." (2 Chronicles 7:1-3)*

*Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was there, prophets and teachers: Barnabas, and Simeon who was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. (Acts 13:1-3)*

### **Listen for what He is saying as you hear the teaching and preaching of His Word.**

He can apply His Word to your life with amazing clarity if you are open and hungry to hear. Don't be defensive, passive, critical, or preoccupied; but be attentive, saying, "Holy Spirit, speak to me through this teaching or message." And He will, if you are willing to listen. It may be about something you weren't even aware of, but He knew you needed.

*Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:36-41)*

*And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-13)*

**Devote yourself to Spirit led fellowship with believers around His Word and the Spirit led use of spiritual gifts by believers.**

We have the gifts of the Spirit to help us build up one another and reach others for Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to clarify your gifting and then work with Him to use it passionately for its intended purpose.

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)*

*They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart (Acts 2:42-46)*

*As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:10,11)*

**Be open to Spirit given dreams, visions, miracles and divine visitations. He still speaks this way today; however, this is not His primary way of revelation.**

Share those experiences with other mature believers so they can help you test them and know how to respond.

*AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS; EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT And they shall prophesy. (Acts 2:17-18)*

*Now there was a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian cohort, a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the Jewish people and prayed to God continually. About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!" And fixing his gaze on him and being much alarmed, he said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God. "Now dispatch some men to Joppa and send for a man named Simon, who is also called Peter; he is staying with a tanner named Simon, whose house is by the sea." When the angel who was speaking to him had left, he summoned two of his servants and a devout soldier of those who were his personal attendants, and after he had explained everything to them, he sent them to Joppa. On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance; and he saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground, and there were in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air. A voice came to him, "Get up, Peter, kill and eat!" But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean." Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy." This happened three times, and immediately the object was taken up into the sky. (Acts 10:1-6)*

**Let the Holy Spirit speak to you through the amazing creation they made together.**

Creation is a huge source of illustrations, and the Bible is full of God using creation to speak to His people for His purposes. He uses creation to inspire, comfort, correct, direct and reveal His greatness. God put us in an environment that is filled with illustrations the Holy Spirit can speak to us through.

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools. (Romans 1:18-22)*

*O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens! (Psalm 8:1)*

*When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him? (Psalm 8:3-4)*

*The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. (Psalm 19:1)*

*The earth is the LORD'S, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it. (Psalm 24:1)*

**Let the Holy Spirit guide you through your circumstances, but be careful not to read excessively into them or use them to justify what you want to do.**

Again, test what you are seeing through them by what the Word teaches and through sharing with other mature believers.

*Then Gideon said to God, "If You will deliver Israel through me, as You have spoken, behold, I will put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor. If there is dew on the fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground, then I will know that You will deliver Israel through me, as You have spoken." And it was so. When he arose early the next morning and squeezed the fleece, he drained the dew from the fleece, a bowl full of water. Then Gideon said to God, "Do not let Your anger burn against me that I may speak once more; please let me make a test once more with the fleece, let it now be dry only on the fleece, and let there be dew on all the ground." God did so that night; for it was dry only on the fleece, and dew was on all the ground. (Judges 6:36-40)*

**Be open to the Holy Spirit's guidance through other people, books, teachings, media and music, but remember this is not the primary source of revelation.**

It must line up with His Word and produce godliness and biblical action to be guidance from Him.

*The word of the LORD came to me saying, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" And I said, "I see a rod of an almond tree." Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it." The word of the LORD came to me a second time saying, "What do you see?" And I said, "I see a boiling pot, facing away from the north." Then the LORD said to me, "Out of the north the evil will break forth on all the inhabitants of the land. (Jeremiah 1:11-14)*

The Holy Spirit's revelation is always consistent and in agreement with the revelation He has already given in His Word. Everything we hear should line up with what God has already revealed in His Word. That's why it is so critical to know the Word well and with certainty.

God has also provided wise and biblical counsel through pastors and mature believers to test and confirm what we believe the Holy Spirit is saying to us. Being submitted to one another and to spiritual authority protects you from being misled and quickens the development of your ability to hear the Holy Spirit personally.

*Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good (1 Thessalonians 5:19-21)*

*Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. (Hebrews 13:17)*

The Holy Spirit wants you to know His voice! He will teach you how to hear Him accurately and consistently as you hunger to know Him and please Him through your obedience. He wants to be your daily, hourly, constant companion, and He wants to have rich fellowship with you. Invite Him to work with you, play with you, relax with you, and walk with you wherever He leads you. He can be your best friend.

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

# ROLES, SYMBOLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Another way to really get to know the Holy Spirit is to understand biblically all He does and who He is. As you grow in your appreciation of Him, you long for a deeper relationship with Him. You also desire everything He is so willing to give you. A key way to deepen your relationship with Him is to get to know the Holy Spirit through His roles, symbols and characteristics.

## Helper, Comforter, Counselor

*But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. (John 16:7)*

## Guide Into All Truth

*But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. (John 16:13-14)*

## Filler

*And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. (Acts 4:31)*

*So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord (Ephesians 5:17-19)*

## Gift Giver

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)*

## Transformer

*But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18)*

## Freedom Giver

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. (2 Corinthians 3:17)*

## Power Provider

*but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth. (Acts 1:8)*

*that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us (Ephesians 3:16-20)*

## **Creator**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. (Genesis 1:1-3)*

## **Conceiver**

*And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. " (Luke 1:31-35)*

## **Grace Giver**

*Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him. But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse. When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul. They went on stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep. (Acts 7:54-60)*

## **Fruit Producer and Flesh Killer**

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another. (Galatians 5:22-26)*

# **THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON**

## **He can be blasphemed.**

*Truly I say to you, all sins shall be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin (Mark 3:28-29)*

## **He can be grieved.**

*Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (Ephesians 4:30)*

## **He can be insulted.**

*How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? (Hebrews 10:29)*

## **He can be lied to.**

*But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? "While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." (Acts 5:3-4)*

## **He can be obeyed.**

*While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. "But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself." Peter went down to the men and said, "Behold, I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for which you have come?" (Acts 10:19-21)*

**He can be quenched.**

*Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good (1 Thessalonians 5:19-21)*

**He can be resisted.**

*You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did. (Acts 7:51)*

**He can be tested.**

*Then Peter said to her, "Why is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out as well." (Acts 5:9)*

## WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT DO?

**He convicts the world of guilt.**

*And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. (John 16:8-11)*

**He glorifies Christ.**

*He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. (John 16:14)*

**He guides into truth.**

*But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. (John 16:13)*

**He intercedes.**

*In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27)*

**He regenerates.**

*Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. (John 3:3-5)*

**He restrains evil.**

*Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. (Genesis 6:3-5)*

**He sanctifies.**

*Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)*

**He leads.**

*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (Matthew 4:1)*

*Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." (Acts 8:29)*

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. (Romans 8:14)*

**He strengthens.**

*that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man (Ephesians 3:16)*

**He alone gives LIFE!**

*'For I will pour out water on the thirsty land And streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring and My blessing on your descendants; and they will spring up among the grass like poplars by streams of water.' (Isaiah 44:3-4)*

*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. (John 6:63)*

**He calls.**

*For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe. For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they did from the Jews (1 Thessalonians 2:13-14)*

**He inspires.**

*for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. (2 Peter 1:21)*

# SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## Deposit and Seal

*Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge. (2 Corinthians 1:21-22)*



## Dove

*After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him. (Matthew 3:16)*



## Fire

*And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*

*(Acts 2:3-4)*



## Water

*Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.' But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39)*



## Oil

*Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah. (1 Samuel 16:13)*



## Wind

*The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit. (John 3:8)*



There is so much to love about the Holy Spirit! He freely gives to us all we need so that we can live a Christ glorifying life that deeply satisfies us and touches others for Christ. Don't be afraid to submit to His lordship and leading. He is GOD IN US!





**HEARING AND  
USING THE GIFTS OF  
THE HOLY SPIRIT**

# HEARING AND USING THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit wants to use you powerfully and effectively to build up believers in Christ and evangelize lost people who are without Christ. That's why it is so important to know His voice and follow His leading. As you do, you receive the life changing satisfaction of being used by Him for your created purpose. Learning to hear Him and follow Him is a trial and error process that He loves to work with you on. You can work through this process without fear or condemnation. He loves you, is for you, and He can even work your mistakes into the tapestry of triumph He is making out of your life.

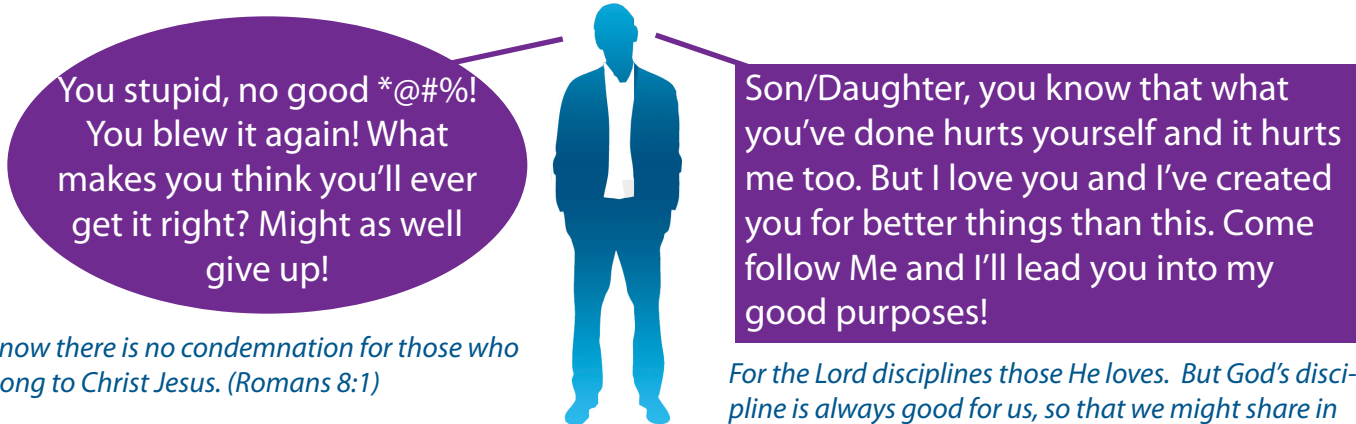
*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God (Romans 8:14-16)*

*And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)*

Ten Characteristics of the Holy Spirit's Voice:

1. **Consistent** \_\_\_\_\_ with the Word of God – Never contradicts the revelation the Holy Spirit inspired in the Word of God.
2. **Clean** \_\_\_\_\_ even when it is piercing – No condemnation in it even when He convicts us of sin, a wrong decision or the negative consequences of taking a certain action.
3. **Creates** \_\_\_\_\_ liberating clarity of illumination where there has been confusion, uncertainty, or even deep vexation.
4. **Comforts** \_\_\_\_\_ us to the core of our being, even when circumstances don't change, and produces peace that passes understanding.
5. **Causes** \_\_\_\_\_ courage to well up in us despite challenges we know we will face as we obey His voice.
6. Creates **confident** \_\_\_\_\_ faith about what He is speaking to us about, and we believe that what He said – He will do!
7. **Controls** \_\_\_\_\_ my "fleshy reaction" and dispenses to me the fruit I need to respond as Christ would in that situation.
8. Causes caution and **restraint** \_\_\_\_\_ to rule my decision even when I don't know why, because I sense something is not right or the timing is off; the Holy Spirit speaks all three – Stop, Wait, Go.
9. **Calls** \_\_\_\_\_ us to increasing holiness and wholeness without hopelessness, knowing He is able to transform us and change in us what is humanly impossible for us to change.
10. **Confirms** \_\_\_\_\_ or contests a decision we have made or are making so that we can have what He knows is best.

**LEARN to DISCERN the difference between Conviction & Condemnation**



You stupid, no good \*@#%!  
You blew it again! What  
makes you think you'll ever  
get it right? Might as well  
give up!

*So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1)*

Son/Daughter, you know that what  
you've done hurts yourself and it hurts  
me too. But I love you and I've created  
you for better things than this. Come  
follow Me and I'll lead you into my  
good purposes!

*For the Lord disciplines those He loves. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in His holiness. (Hebrews 12:6, 10b)*

# HOW WE BECOME FRUITFUL THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit makes us increasingly fruitful and effective for Christ by:

## 1. Transforming our character into being more and more like Christ's.

*but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:16-18)*

## 2. Giving us all we need to conquer sinful habits and respond to life's challenges with His fruits instead of our flesh.

*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. (Romans 8:11-13)*

## 3. Filling our hearts with all the love, forgiveness and grace we need in order to have loving relationships with others, including those who hurt us.

*Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him. But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse. When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul. They went on stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep. (Acts 7:54-60)*

## 4. Supernaturally distributing spiritual gifts as well as the power and grace to use them effectively.

Every believer is gifted and has critical gifting that significantly contributes to Christ's body by caring for one another and reaching the lost. No gift is insignificant, but every gifting is essential and needed for His body to be healthy and fruitful. Your spiritual gifting is also a key way the Holy Spirit uses you to reach lost people for Christ. As you use your spiritual gifts to love lost people they are drawn to Christ. You form part of the net the Holy Spirit uses to catch the lost for Christ. That is why it is so critical for us to understand, pursue, and use our spiritual gifts. We win, the Body of Christ wins, the lost are won, and Christ wins those He came to save, restore, and set free to live their divine design.

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS TODAY

One of the most critical pieces to discovering your divine design is knowing and developing your God given spiritual gifts. Over and over in scripture, we are told to use our spiritual gift or gifts to build up Christ's body. Our gifts can also be used to glorify Christ in the marketplace, in our friendships, and in all our social contacts. This is why we are told repeatedly to earnestly desire and to use our spiritual gifts. Using them is essential to an abundant life in Christ.

Paul says:

*Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. (1 Corinthians 14:1)*

Peter says:

*As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:10-11)*

## MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS

*Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. (Romans 12:1-8)*

These gifts are part of our **spiritual DNA**, and I believe we are wired with them while yet in our mother's womb. They are at the core of who we are and what we were divinely designed to do. Knowing which of these God has wired us with helps us know a key piece of our SHAPE and shows us how we can be most fruitful for Christ both in service to the body, and the world.

The "GIFTS" we will be discussing in this session comes from the first group:

The Motivational Gifts that we are born with.

### Types of Motivational Gifts

- Prophesying (Perceiving)
- Serving
- Teaching
- Encouraging (Exhortation)
- Contribution (Giving)
- Leadership (Administration)
- Mercy (Compassion)

### **Perceiver (Prophesying)**

One who clearly Perceives the will of God and faithfully communicates it to others for their encouragement, edification, and exhortation. They see God's heart, truth and plan when others don't

These people are the Eyes of the body of Christ.

### **Server (Serving)**

One who loves to meet others Practical Needs through personal involvement. They are good doers; they have busy hands that help.

These people are the Hands of the body of Christ.

### **Teacher (Teaching)**

One who loves to Research and Communicate truth to others so that they can effectively apply it to their lives. For them there is a lesson in everything and in every situation.

These people are the Brains of the body of Christ.

### **Exhorter (Encouraging)**

One who loves to Encourage and Stimulate others to a victorious life in Christ. They are positive, upbeat, determined and spilling over words of blessing to those around them.

These people are the Mouth of the body of Christ.

### **Giver (Contributing)**

One who loves to Share their time, talents, and money to benefit others. They recognize how to fix situations, strengthen weak efforts, and encourage others with more resources of any kind.

These people are the Arms of the body of Christ.

### **Administrator (Leadership)**

One who loves to Motivate, Coordinate and Direct the resources and efforts of others in doing work. A multitasking leader with big-picture vision.

These people are the Shoulders of the body of Christ.

### **Compassion (Mercy)**

One who loves to Show mercy, tenderness, love and concern to those in need. One who sees through the eyes of the heart, the needs of others.

These people are the Heart of the body of Christ.

### **What do these gifts tell me about myself?**

Don't expect them to show you the whole picture, but they can reveal a great deal about **WHAT** you should be doing to impact others. God bestows some of the gifts more frequently than others.

Perceiver	12%	Giver	6%
Teacher	6%	Server	17%
Administrator	13%	Exhorter	16%
Compassion	30%		

We need your gift in action. Go ahead, be what you were created to be!

## MANIFESTATION GIFTS

*Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware. You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to the mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)*

These Manifestation Gifts are distributed by the Holy Spirit to meet the real needs of people. We can receive many of these Manifestation Gifts depending on the need of the moment and our willingness to receive them. As you believe for them and receive them you find the Holy Spirit consistently manifests His power and presence through you in certain gifts. They become your most dominant manifestation gifting. Here is a description of each of these manifestation gifts for you to reflect on.

### Wisdom

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by making wise decisions and counseling others with sound biblical advice, all in accordance with God's will. It can be the application of God's Word or special revelation in agreement with God's Word given by the Holy Spirit to meet the need of the moment.

*Then two women who were harlots came to the king and stood before him. The one woman said, "Oh, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house; and I gave birth to a child while she was in the house. "It happened on the third day after I gave birth, that this woman also gave birth to a child, and we were together. There was no stranger with us in the house, only the two of us in the house. "This woman's son died in the night, because she lay on it. "So she arose in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your maidservant slept, and laid him in her bosom, and laid her dead son in my bosom. "When I rose in the morning to nurse my son, behold, he was dead; but when I looked at him carefully in the morning, behold, he was not my son, whom I had borne." Then the other woman said, "No! For the living one is my son, and the dead one is your son." But the first woman said, "No! For the dead one is your son, and the living one is my son." Thus they spoke before the king. Then the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son who is living, and your son is the dead one'; and the other says, 'No! For your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.'" The king said, "Get me a sword." So they brought a sword before the king. The king said, "Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one and half to the other." Then the woman whose child was the living one spoke to the king, for she was deeply stirred over her son and said, "Oh, my lord, give her the living child, and by no means kill him." But the other said, "He shall be neither mine nor yours; divide him!" Then the king said, "Give the first woman the living child, and by no means kill him. She is his mother." When all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had handed down, they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice. (1 Kings 3:16-28)*

*Now at this time while the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:1-4)*

## Knowledge

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by communicating God's truth to others that He has revealed to you for their help and edification. It can be scripture, life lessons the Holy Spirit taught you, or divinely given special knowledge the Spirit gave you that you did not know.

*The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw." He said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. "Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." (John 4:15-20)*

*But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? "While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came over all who heard of it. The young men got up and covered him up, and after carrying him out, they buried him. (Acts 5:1-6)*

## Faith

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by stepping out in bold obedience to see God's purposes accomplished, trusting Him to handle any and all obstacles along the way.

*And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. (Hebrews 11:32-34)*

## Healing

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by healing and restoring to health, beyond traditional and natural means, those who are sick, hurting and suffering. The Holy Spirit uses a person to touch the physical, emotional, relational or even the spiritual hurts or illness in someone's life.

*Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer. And a man who had been lame from his mother's womb was being carried along, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, in order to beg alms of those who were entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he began asking to receive alms. But Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, "Look at us!" And he began to give them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene--walk!" And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened. With a leap he stood upright and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God; and they were taking note of him as being the one who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple to beg alms, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. (Acts 3:1-10)*

*Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. (James 5:14-16)*

## **Miracles**

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ and speak to lost people through supernatural acts that bring validity to God and His power. These manifestations can only be explained through God's supernatural involvement doing what is humanly impossible.

*God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, so that handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out. (Acts 19:11-12)*

## **Prophecy**

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by offering messages from God that comfort, edify, exhort and clarify God's heart and mind to His people. The original Greek meaning of the word is "to speak forth the truth".

*From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them, "You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you the whole time, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials which came upon me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. "And now, behold, bound by the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me." But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God. "And now, behold, I know that all of you, among whom I went about preaching the kingdom, will no longer see my face. "Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. "For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. (Acts 20:17-27)*

*On the next day we left and came to Caesarea, and entering the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, we stayed with him. Now this man had four virgin daughters who were prophetesses. As we were staying there for some days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands, and said, "This is what the Holy Spirit says: 'In this way the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'" When we had heard this, we as well as the local residents began begging him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but even to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." (Acts 21:8-13)*

## **Discernment**

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by recognizing truth or error within a message, person or event and also recognizing the possible presence of demonic forces.

*It happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling. Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, "These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation." She continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out at that very moment. (Acts 16:16-18)*

## **Tongues**

The Spirit-given special ability to speak, in an unknown language words and utterances that edify and build up yourself and can also be interpreted if the Holy Spirit desires it for the edification of others. This is primarily a private gift for prayer and worship, but can be a public gift if used under biblical authority and in biblical order.

*Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation. One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church. Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying. But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching? Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will it be known what is played on the flute or on the harp? For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle? So also you, unless you utter by the tongue speech that is clear, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air. There are, perhaps, a great many kinds of languages in the world, and no kind is without meaning. If then I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be to the one who speaks a barbarian, and the one who speaks will be a barbarian to me. So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church. Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. What is the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also. Otherwise if you bless in the spirit only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying? For you are giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not edified. I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all; however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue. (1 Corinthians 14:1-19)*

*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?" Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs--we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God." (Acts 2:1-11)*

## **Interpretation**

The Spirit-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by understanding, at a specific time, God's message when spoken by another person by using a special language unknown to the others in attendance.

*And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. (1 Corinthians 12:26-28)*

# MINISTRY GIFTS

As you are faithful in your character development and seek to use your gifts to build up His body and reach lost people, He can give you the gifting and privilege of caring for, building up, and equipping His body for the work of ministry.

*And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-13)*

## **Apostles**

Launch and lead new ministries with the goal of proclaiming the gospel and bringing people to Christ. They are “sent ones” with the goal of establishing and laying the foundation for kingdom growing ministries and local churches. They are not in the same category as biblical apostles, but similar in mission and calling.

*Examples include- John Wesley; Bill Bright, Loren Cunningham*

## **Prophets**

Hear and see clearly God’s will and heart from His Word, through listening to the Holy Spirit and faithfully communicating to God’s people for their edification, exhortation and consolation.

*Examples include James Dobson; Chuck Colson*

## **Evangelists**

Are both highly effective in sharing Christ with unbelievers so they can receive Christ and in training believers to do the same. They understand and communicate with clarity the gospel and teach others how to do the same with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

*Examples include Billy Graham; Luis Palau, David Tey*

## **Pastors**

Teach and care for a local body of believers leading them to fulfill the Great Commission. They provide oversight, encouragement and even correction so believers become like Christ and unbelievers are won to Christ.

## **Teachers**

Study and effectively communicate biblical truth so that believers understand God’s Word, apply it to their lives, and cooperate with the Holy Spirit in their transformation and ministry.

## **How does the Holy Spirit communicate to us what our gifts are?**

- Study and understanding of what the gifts are
- Teaching and training about gifts
- Earnest desire to serve Christ and others in our gifts
- Exploration and risk taking with what you know
- Personal reflection on life experiences and how the Spirit uses you
- Honest reflection from other believers about how they see the Spirit using you
- Faith filled obedience to what you believe the Spirit is leading you to do

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. (Hebrews 11:6)*

# HOW WE ARE MOTIVATED TO USE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

The Holy Spirit shows us truth that we feel a burden to share in love for the benefit of others.

Rate yourself: 0 = I haven't experienced that - 10 = I've experienced that

He allows us to feel a deep compassion of love for certain people, needs or causes, and gives us a penetrating desire to help in a real way.

0|-----|10

He allows us to have life experiences that create sensitivity and passion about certain people, needs or causes.

0|-----|10

He touches our lives powerfully in such a way that we want others to experience what we have in our relationship with Him.

0|-----|10

He gives faith for something He wants you to accomplish, and the wisdom and determination to achieve it.

0|-----|10

The Holy Spirit wants to use you powerfully to express the love and life of Jesus Christ. He knows how to use you best so both you and those you serve are deeply blessed. He'll give you everything you need to do everything He leads you to do. As you follow Him, you'll be amazed what He does in you and through you.

Always remember- there's no limit to what the Holy Spirit can do through a yielded you!

*Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us (Ephesians 3:20)*