



WALKING IN THE
GIFTS
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

FRIDAY, JAN 25 | 6PM-8:30PM
SATURDAY, JAN 26 | 9AM-2:30PM





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This conference will be recorded and made available on Foothillschurch.org for future viewing. DVD sets will also be made available for purchase in the Foothills bookstore.

Session 1:

Understanding Spiritual Gifts

Mark Hoffman

1 Corinthians 12:1-2

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to the mute idols, however you were led.

Spiritual gifts are critically important so we must understand them (v.1).

Spiritual gifts come with a warning. Spiritual Gifts and experiences have counterfeits (v.2).

SIMPLE RULE: anything that is valuable will be counterfeited.

Everything must be tested.

1 Corinthians 12:3

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.

Anything that leads you away from the authority of Jesus, His teaching and His church are not of God.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. ⁶There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.

Three members of the Trinity work together with us in ministry.

Gifts are associated with the Holy Spirit

Ministries are associated with Jesus

Effects or the end result are associated with God

A diversity of gifts, ministries and effects create unity.

THREE KEY IDEAS

1 Corinthians 12:7

But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1. "each one"

Since you don't have to qualify or deserve spiritual gifts, God wants to give them to everyone.

2. "common good" = good of others

Spiritual gifts are generally given through you to benefit another who needs God's compassion and help.

3. "manifestations" gk: Phoros "shining for or flashing forth"

The next 9 verses are gifts that are flashing forths of the Spirit's work:

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ 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.

3 EYE GIFTS:

Supernatural expressions of God's seeing and knowing.

Word of Knowledge: Reveals something unknown to you but known to God

Word of Wisdom: Allows us to have God's wisdom in a situation

Discerning of Spirits: Allows us to recognize the nature of a demonic spirit operating in a situation.

3 HAND GIFTS:

Manifestations of God's power which release His power into human need.

Gift of Healing: Not an ability but a flash of God's healing power.

Miracles: Extraordinary acts of God which cause people to wonder and be in awe.

Faith: Specific deposit of faith or burst of confidence that something is going to happen.

3 MOUTH GIFTS:

Manifestations of God's speaking

Prophecy: A revelation of God's will concerning a particular person or situation.

Tongues: A spiritual language allowing your inspired spirit to speak beyond the limits of your mind.

Interpretation of tongues: An interpretation in English of a message given by God through tongues.

These 9 gifts are God's compassionate hand extended to people in need. They flow through imperfect but available people.

A SECOND LIST OF 7 GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Romans 12:4-8

For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Since 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;⁷ if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

The word “manifestation” doesn’t appear. Instead, the word “function” (v.4) appears (i.e. what a person does.)

FUNCTION GIFTS are the role (job description) we have in the Body of Christ.

These gifts are also called motivational gifts. These gifts or assignments explain why we are motivated to different areas of ministry.

ANOTHER OBVIOUS DIFFERENCE IN THE LISTS

I Corinthians 12:4,11 “just as He wills”

(v.4) Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are varieties of ministries, **and the same Lord.**

(v.11) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually **just as He wills.**

These gifts belong to the Holy Spirit (NOT US) to distribute as HE WILLS.

Romans 12:6

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...

LIST OF FUNCTION OR MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS

Romans 12:6-8

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;⁷ if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Prophecy: gk: Prophetia Pro=forth Phemi = speak

These are people who are burdened and gifted to proclaim God's Word to the congregation.

Service: Meeting practical needs to serve and build up the Body of Christ.

Teaching: Helping people understand and make application of God's principles.

Exhortation: The giving of encouragement to trust and obey God.

Giving: The motivation and ability to give generously and sacrificially with great joy.

Leadership: The ability to recognize people's gifting and then organize and supervise them to accomplish God's goals.

Showing Mercy: The ability to reveal God's heart and compassion to the downcast.

1 Corinthians 12: 13-18

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. ¹⁴For the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.

The church is the living body of Jesus on earth today.

Christ's body has the same design concepts as the human body.

Diversity of function: Parts have different functions.

Specialization: Different parts excel in different areas.

Interdependence: All parts must function together.

God works through specialization.

Medicine, science, manufacturing; in fact every field shows we make greater progress when people specialize.

Jesus makes us specialists so that there will be greater progress in His Kingdom.

The idea some have that all people should be able to move equally in each manifestation is at variance with the Biblical concept of specialization and interdependence of the Body.

No role or gift is unimportant; each is equally necessary in order to progress and win.

It is foolish to wish you had a different gift since God has chosen yours.

1 Corinthians 12:18-19

But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. ¹⁹If they were all one member, where would the body be?

We don't need just one gift, but each is necessary.

Which is the best gift?

The one that is needed at the moment.

1 Peter 4:10

But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. ¹⁹If they were all one member, where would the body be?

Every one of us has received a spiritual gift or functional gift from God.

Session 2:

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Dave Hoffman

Jesus made it very clear that to do what He called us to do we need to be _____.

So, He told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem until baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:4-5

⁴ Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." (Also Luke 24:49)

In the Old Testament _____ prophesied that God would pour out His Spirit on mankind (Joel 2:28-32).

On the day of Pentecost the Apostle _____ uses Joel's prophesy to explain what had happened to the 120 believers.

Acts 2:17-18

¹⁷ '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 prophesy,
And your young men shall see visions,
And your old men shall dream dreams;
¹⁸ Even on My bondslaves, both men and women,
I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit
And they shall prophesy.

Joel was prophesying that a new time was coming where all God's people could _____
_____ in their lives.

This term *Baptism of the Holy Spirit* originated with _____.

Matthew 3:11

¹¹ "As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

The Greek word "*pur*" translated as fire literally means _____.

This Baptism of the Holy Spirit is _____ from the indwelling presence at conversion.

The indwelling presence of God comes and lives inside us at _____.

John 14:15-17, 23

¹⁵ "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ 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. ²³ 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.

2 Corinthians 1:22

²² ...who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

2 Corinthians 5:5

⁵ Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

1 Corinthians 6:17

¹⁷ But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

In 1 Corinthians 6:17, when a person proclaims Jesus as Lord the very essence of Christ's nature is _____.

When a person is born again, (John 3) the Holy Spirit makes His abode with Him and then that person has the opportunity _____.

Galatians 2:20

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Each day a Christian must die to the _____ self and the old ways of living, and responding and say yes to God's way. This is how we walk in the _____.

Ephesians 1:13-14

¹³ In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

The moment we believed in Jesus, God gave us His Holy Spirit as a _____.

Many believe that the indwelling presence at salvation and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit are _____. But the Bible indicates that they are two _____.

John 20:19-23

¹⁹ So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."

This is when the Holy Spirit indwelt the disciples. How do we know this? Jesus said, "_____."

Luke 24:49

⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Acts 1:4, 5, 8

⁴ Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁸ ...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."

In Acts 2, we have a written account of what happened to 120 believers who were _____. This baptism _____ these believers from timid, frightened fugitives to fearless soldiers for Jesus Christ.

On the Day of Pentecost Peter preached a powerful message. Afterward they wanted to know what to do to be saved.

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸ 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. ³⁹ 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."

Notice the sequence: _____, _____ (indwelling presence), then the - _____.

From the beginning Jesus' disciples would only _____ those who had already made commitments to Jesus.

In Acts 8 Philip meets an Ethiopian on the _____.

Acts 8:36-37

³⁶ As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch *said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁷ And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

When the Ethiopian wanted to be baptized, what was Philip's response? He could be baptized if he had _____.

Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴ Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, ¹⁵ who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.

Notice the sequence in this passage _____ then the apostle laid hands on them and they _____.

In Acts 11 Peter describes what happened at Cornelius' house in Caesarea.

Acts 11:15-17

¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

Peter clearly states that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit was given _____ they believed.

Back to the Day of _____ .

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸ 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. ³⁹ 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."

What is the promise Peter is talking about? The promise that Peter is referring to is _____ that Jesus referred to in Acts 1:4-5 and Peter in Acts 2:33.

Based upon scripture we also do _____ believe that it is a _____ event, but is _____ in a believer's life.

In Acts 3:19 Peter tells us that we will have times of _____ (plural). Who will do the refreshing? _____. We all need times of refreshing from the Holy Spirit. If we ask Him to fill us _____! (Luke 11:13)

There is nothing to be _____, God loves us and only wants the best for us.

There is no _____ manifestation to authenticate being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

In the New Testament the Holy Spirit "falls on" people _____ times (Acts 10:44, 11:15, 15:18), "comes upon" people _____ times (Acts 1:8, 19:6), and _____ times it was received (Acts 8:17, 10:47) and _____ times they were "filled" (Acts 2:2,4, 4:18,31, 9:17, 13:9, Luke 1:67,41).

The results were _____ times preaching, _____ times witnessing and _____ times speaking in tongues, and _____ times prophecy.

Therefore it is wrong to take any one experience and use it as a standard to _____ whether someone was baptized in the Spirit. Nowhere in the New Testament are we told we must have any one _____ to authenticate the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 11:9-13

⁹ "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. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened. ¹¹ 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? ¹² Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? ¹³ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Is not Jesus saying _____ to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and _____?

What can we say? Simply, "Ask and you will receive that your joy may be made full." (John 16:24)

Answer Key

Session 2 / Baptism of the Holy Spirit, David Hoffman

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Empowered
Joel
Peter
Experience God's power
John the Baptist
Lightening
Separate
Conversion

Page 8

Joined to him
Walk in the Spirit
Old
Spirit
Guarantee
The same thing
Separate events
Receive

Page 9

Baptized in the Holy Spirit
Transformed
Repentance
Conversion
Gift of the Holy Spirit
Baptize
Gaza Road

Page 10

Believed in Jesus
Belief in Jesus
Received the Holy Spirit

Page 11

After
Pentecost
The Baptism of the Holy Spirit
Not
One-time
Repeatable
Refreshing
The Holy Spirit
He will
Afraid of
One
3
2
2
6
3
2
3
2
Measure
Experience
Ask
You will

Session 3:

Spiritual Gifts in Evangelism and Intercession

Linda Hoffman

THE GOAL OF THE KING:

That His image grows in us.

That we become lights of the world because of our “likeness to Christ.”

That we “go in His name” and bring His Light/Kingdom to others.”

The Great Commission

Matt 28:18-20

All authority is given to Me...go and make disciples...I am with you always...

Acts 1:8

You will receive power... and you will be my witnesses

Luke 10:1-20

He sent them out saying, heal the sick and proclaim that the Kingdom of God has come near to you

1. RECOGNIZE OUR RELIANCE ON GOD

Garment of Humility:

The garment by which God protects us from ourselves and the enemy.

1 Peter 5:5

“Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

John 3:27

“A man can receive nothing except it be given him from heaven.”

John 15:5

“I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from God, you can do nothing.”

We recognize we are not enough in our own strength to do the works of God.

We lose trust in ourselves and gain trust in God and His Word. Then comes the heart cry, “Give me more of You.”

2. KNOW THE WORD OF GOD; PRAY A BLESSING OVER ANYONE

I Corinthians 12:31

Earnestly desire spiritual gifts

1 Corinthians 13:2

...and I will show you a still more excellent way...If I have the gift of prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing

1 Corinthians 14:1

...the greatest of all these is love....**Pursue love, yet earnestly desire spiritual gifts**

Cultivate a listening heart, and obedience and faith to just speak up.

The Holy Spirit helps you know what to say in the moment. (Matthew 10:19)

3. DISCERNING WHAT IS FROM ME AND WHAT IS FROM GOD

HUMILITY MEANS, "I CAN BE WRONG."

Who do you allow to speak truth to you?

Are you under authority? Ask your "authority" what they think.

PRACTICE BRINGS PERCEPTION

Perception: the ability to see, hear, or become aware of something through the senses.

You begin to be able to discern between your thoughts and ideas and God's prompting simply by practicing praying over people.

Physical manifestations can accompany God's presence: Tingling, heart beats faster, hands shake

4. EVANGELISM: How do I affect the culture around me?

Question: Do I care for the lost?

TRUTH: I am His ambassador

Unless someone speaks, how can they hear? Romans 10:14-15

Wherever you go, proclaim the Kingdom of God has come near ...Matt. 10:7

PRAY: Lord, I am Your ambassador; If You want to speak to anyone in this place, give me an ear to hear You."

Boldness but not brashness

I don't want to embarrass someone.

I want to be very aware of people's work place environment.

How to speak a word

Not saying, "God says....."

Not saying more than you were given.

5. DREAMS: one way God turns our attention to seek Him

Job 33:14-18 RSV

"For God speaks in one way, and in two, though man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while they slumber on their beds, then he opens the ears of men, and terrifies them with warnings, that he may turn man aside from his deed, and cut off pride from man; he keeps back his soul from the Pit, his life from perishing by the sword."

Psalm 17:3 NKJV

"You have tested my heart; You have visited me in the night"

90% of dreams are not literal.

If we find it hard to obey what is CLEAR in the Word of God that we can read daily, how much more difficult the things that are obscure and veiled in figurative imagery?

We wonder and ponder and ask people, "What do you think about this?"

Most dreams are to recognize self-condition.

Dreams primarily draw us to intercede.

SUMMARY

As children of God, we are in a LIFETIME PROCESS, of dying to ourselves and coming alive to God. Be as patient with yourself as God is with you.

Luke 11:13

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Session 4:

Growing in Spiritual Discernment

Mark Hoffman

ANYTHING THAT IS VALUABLE WILL BE COUNTERFEITED

The Devil is a great counterfeiter.

2 Corinthians 11:3-5

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. ⁴For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.

The Devil offers:

A Different spirit than the Holy Spirit

A Different Jesus; a counterfeit Jesus

A Different gospel

TRUE RELIGION AND SPIRITUAL DECEPTION BEGAN IN THE GARDEN

True Religion

Genesis 1:27 Here I get my identity

God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 1:28 Here I get my purpose

God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 1:29 and 22:16-17 Here I understand God's provision for Me

Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you..."

This is true religion and the right worldview which leads to abundant living.

SPIRITUAL DECEPTION

A. **Genesis 3:1-4**

Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; ³but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'" ⁴The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die.

Eve Had a powerful encounter, but it wasn't with God. It was with Satan.

He attempts to separate her from God's Word. *"Has God really said...."*

The First Step in spiritual deception is to diminish the place of God's Word.

B. **Genesis 3:5a**

For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God...

He tells her she can receive an impartation to know truth by subjective inner impression.

The Second Step is to turn people inward. To elevate subjective experience over everything else.

C. **Genesis 3:5**

For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

She will no longer need to listen to or depend on any spiritual authority.

The Third Step is to separate people from the spiritual authorities God has placed in their lives.

The heart of Satan's religion is turning inward -- to mystical experiences.

THERE ARE ONLY 2 BASIC TYPES OF RELIGION WITH TWO COMPETING WORLDVIEWS

1. **Prophetic/Biblical Religion:** Genesis 1 -- God defines and explains life in a rational way.
2. **Pagan/Mystical Religion:** Genesis 3 --The attempt to know truth by inward mystical encounters.

1. Prophetic/Biblical: God descends to us historically in Jesus and in a continuing way through the Holy Spirit.
2. Pagan/Mystical: We ascend to God (spirit world) through learning techniques and practices.

Both of these spiritual rivers are flowing in our culture today.

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

The same deceiving spirit that was successful with Eve in the Garden was still trying to deceive New Testament believers.

In the early church there were many spiritual manifestations and they were responsible to test them. The test was whether it agreed with the apostolic testimony in the New Testament doctrine.

I John 4:1, 6

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world...We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Two opposite mistakes to avoid:

I Thessalonians 5:19-21

Do not quench the Spirit; ²⁰do not despise prophetic utterances. ²¹But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good.

1. **Despise prophecy:** Because of problems and confusion some say, "We can do without it."
2. **Be gullible and foolish:** Some are so zealous for the supernatural that they don't exercise discernment and common sense.

SOME GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING THE HOLY SPIRIT RELIGION FROM MYSTICAL COUNTERFEITS

1. Biblical Religion: God reveals Himself as a Righteous Judge with moral laws that must be obeyed.

Mystical Religion: "God" is primarily power and "love."

Religion is an inward subjective experience and objective rules are not important.

It leads to extreme views of grace and universalism and openness to unbiblical alternative lifestyles.

2. Biblical Religion: Spiritual gifts belong to the Holy Spirit who gives them as and when He wills
(I Corinthians 12:7, 13)

Mystical Religion: Spiritual abilities are largely taught and developed.

3. Biblical Religion: The Holy Spirit primarily convicts us of sin and our need for Jesus and the truth of His Words.
(John 16:7-9)

Mystical Religion: Experiences are to awaken us to our inner potential and independence. Prophecy focuses on our tremendous giftedness, our great potential and destiny.

4. Biblical Religion: Because God primarily reveals Himself through words, our intellect is important. Bible study and teaching of the Bible are an important and central part of meetings.
Properly ordained church leaders are important to bring discipline and growth in conformity to God's ways.

Hebrews 13:17

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.

Mystical Religion: The intellect is suspect because subjective, irrational experiences are foremost.

The locus of authority has moved from the objective to the subjective.
People become alienated from their church relationships.

THE COMING OF JESUS HERALDED A SEISMIC CHANGE IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Hebrews 1:1-2

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.

Verse 1: God's primary way of speaking in the Old Covenant was through prophets.

Verse 2: Signals a change. Now He speaks to us through His Son.

The **focus has shifted** from the lone prophet to the Holy Spirit operating in the church.

WHAT IF I GET A PROPHECY OR VISION OR SOMEONE PROPHECIES OVER ME?

1. We are responsible to test the prophecy and hold on to what is good.
2. Separate out the prophecy or vision from its interpretation and application. Discern them separately.

1 Peter 10:10-12

As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, ¹¹seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. ¹²It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you...

3. Is it received by those closest to you and by your spiritual leaders?

Discernment is not primarily an inward feeling or impression.

Discernment is primarily a skill that comes from knowing God through a history of obeying Him.

Session 5:

Biblical Rules for Ministering to Others in Spiritual Gifts (Manifestation Gifts)

Jim Deyling

SPIRITUAL GIFTS HAVE POWER TO BLESS AND TO HARM

Therefore, the Bible gives rules for their use:

1 Timothy 3:15

*... I write so that you will **know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God**, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.*

The Corinthians enjoyed the whole gamut of spiritual gifts in their meetings. However, those meetings were so disordered and contrary to godly practices that Paul had to issue strong correctives.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE SUBJECTIVE

Your expression of spiritual gifts can be shaped by these factors:

- Your imagination, personality and motives
- Your understanding and familiarity with the Word
- Your training and life experiences
- The grace of God (the level of gifting and authority in your life)
- What God actually wants to communicate

A deficiency or breakdown at any level can leave blind spots in your ability to minister accurately.

THE SCRIPTURES ARE THE RULE OF LAW FOR LIFE

The things you say and do while praying and ministering need to line up with the principles in the Bible.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

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.

The role of the Holy Spirit is to illuminate the objective truths revealed in scripture so that we can grasp and enjoy them. He will not contradict or lead you to neglect or ignore the clear commands of scripture. **True spiritual encounters always lead to greater obedience to God's commandments:** *Ezekiel 36:26-27.*

WE OPERATE IN THE “BASIC PROPHETIC” OR “PERSONAL PROPHETIC” REALM

1 Corinthians 14:3

*The one who prophesies speaks to men for **edification** and **exhortation** and **consolation**.*

The primary purpose of prophecy (and spiritual gifts) is positive, encouraging, uplifting.

Therefore: avoid correction, direction, mates or overstates.

Don't prophecy **correction**. If appropriate, address the issue through conversation- not through prophecy. Always try to leave people feeling loved and affirmed.

Don't prophecy **direction** (directives): Direct them to their pastoral leadership for life direction. If you feel you have received direction for that person, take it to their authority.

Mates: Don't prophecy romance or marriage.

Don't **overstate**. Avoid over-the-top prophecies and flattery. Strive to keep your prophetic words simple, restrained, and in line with the tone and tenor of scripture

EXERCISE SELF-CONTROL WHEN MINISTERING TO OTHERS (DON'T BE ODD)

The one ministering has responsibility to act with dignity and composure.

Myth: The more you are out of control- the more the Holy Spirit is in control. Self-control is called a fruit of the Spirit. He enables us to master our impulses and to carry ourselves with peace and dignity.

1 Timothy 3:4 *[An overseer must manage his family] with all dignity.*

1 Timothy 3:8 *Deacons likewise must be men of dignity...*

1 Timothy 3:11 *Women must likewise be dignified...*

Titus 2: 2 *Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible...*

1 Timothy 2:2b *...lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity*

The problem is that, in the intensity of the moment and in our enthusiasm, we can express the effects of the Spirit in ways that hinder and confuse people who are unfamiliar with ministry in the Holy Spirit. **This is not evil, it's just unwise because it can be so distracting to the uninitiated.** Instead, strive for the purest expression of the Holy Spirit possible. We want nothing to distract the ones we are ministering to from receiving all God has for them. The principle is this:

We sacrifice self-expression in order to benefit others.

Galatians 5:13-14

*For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love **serve one another**. For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."*

Paul had two main concerns with the way the church at Corinth expressed spiritual gifts: First, they were misusing the gift of tongues:

Corinthians 14:9,17

unless you utter by the tongue speech that is clear, how will it be known what is spoken... since he does not know what you are saying? ¹⁷For you are giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not edified...

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS IS TO EDIFY OTHERS NOT YOURSELF

Second, Paul chided the Corinthians for not being sufficiently concerned about how their meetings looked to unbelievers and to other Christians who didn't share their experience of spiritual gifts. *If the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are mad?* (1 Corinthians 14:23)

JUST BEHAVE NORMALLY WHEN MINISTERING TO OTHERS (DON'T BE ODD)

We violate Paul's rules for ministry in the Spirit when we engage in ecstatic displays and content-less spiritual expression. Unintelligible expressions are not helpful to the group.

1 Corinthians 14:18

I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all; however, in the church (group meetings) I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue. Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature.

LEARN HOW TO MINISTER TO PEOPLE WITHOUT MANIFESTING IN A WAY THAT DISTRACTS THEM FROM RECEIVING FROM GOD

Philippians 2:3

...with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves.

1 Corinthians 8:13

Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause my brother to stumble.

Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit. When ministering: avoid distracting others and becoming the focus of attention- You may have to learn how - it may not feel natural. But self-discipline is a function of maturity.

1 Peter 4:10

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR FRUIT NOT MANIFESTATIONS

The whole point of spiritual gifts is spiritual fruit: salvation, deliverance, encouragement, repentance, healing, faith. That is our focus, not shaking, falling over, or laughing, etc.

DON'T INSIST YOU ARE RIGHT

let the other person decide. Your job is to deliver. Their job is to judge. God gives the one receiving prophecy the right to reject it:

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

*"...do not despise prophetic utterances, **but examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good.***

CONCLUSION:

Ministry in the Holy Spirit is a joy. Few things in life are as rewarding as when God routes His divine help through you to someone in need. You have the honor of being a co-worker with God. The Lord can accomplish in an instant what years of therapy can't do and He does His amazing work through us! If we'll follow the protocols He set in His word, we greatly reduce the potential for harm and increase the potential for a good outcome in any Holy Spirit inspired encounter.

Session 6:

The Revelatory Charisma Gifts

Marc Dupont

THE 'CHARISMA GIFTS' OF 1 CORINTHIANS 12 & 14 ARE SUPERNATURAL TOOLS, NOT TITLES.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IMPARTS TO US TO DO THE WORK OF THE KINGDOM.

Not all gifts are given to each, but as the Holy Spirit pleases. **1 Corinthians 12**

Each of us is created by God to be unique expressions of God and His goodness

Psalms 139.13 'For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.'

There are 3 'power gifts': healing, miracles, & faith

3 'speaking gifts': tongues, interpretation of tongues, and wisdom

3 'revelatory gifts': discernment of spirits, word of knowledge, & prophecy

Prophecy is:

- revelation of future events
- revelation of God's love for an individual
- revelation of God's will for a person, or group
- revelation of God's heart for change, in an individual, church, or institution

Word of knowledge is revelation of a particular healing(s), or breakthrough, God is desiring to release at a particular time

COMMON WAYS WE OFTEN 'HEAR' FROM GOD:

- Words suddenly land on your mind (not a result of your good intentions, or hopes)
- God suddenly gives you a picture (vision); either a snapshot, or a series of pictures
- You might experience a sudden pain in a part of your body that indicates the Holy Spirit is desiring to heal someone with that symptom.
- Suddenly, 'you know that you know' what you did not previously know, or suddenly you know that you know a healing, miracle, or breakthrough is about to take place.
- You might hear an audible voice.

WHAT DO WE DO WITH REVELATORY WORDS?

With Prophecy we run it through a Biblical filter to 'weigh the word'. (1 Corinthians 14.29)

In the Old Covenant times 'the weight was on the prophet to be perfectly accurate. In New Covenant times the weight is on the hearer(s) to correctly assess the word'.

5 BASIC QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN WEIGHING A WORD:

Refer to the handout '*Keys to Correctly Discern a Prophetic Word*'

Two words used in the Old Testament for prophecy are 'Naba' and 'Zyid'. Revelation from God spring up while our own imaginations are cooked up!

We often need to discern between 'God ideas' and 'good ideas'!

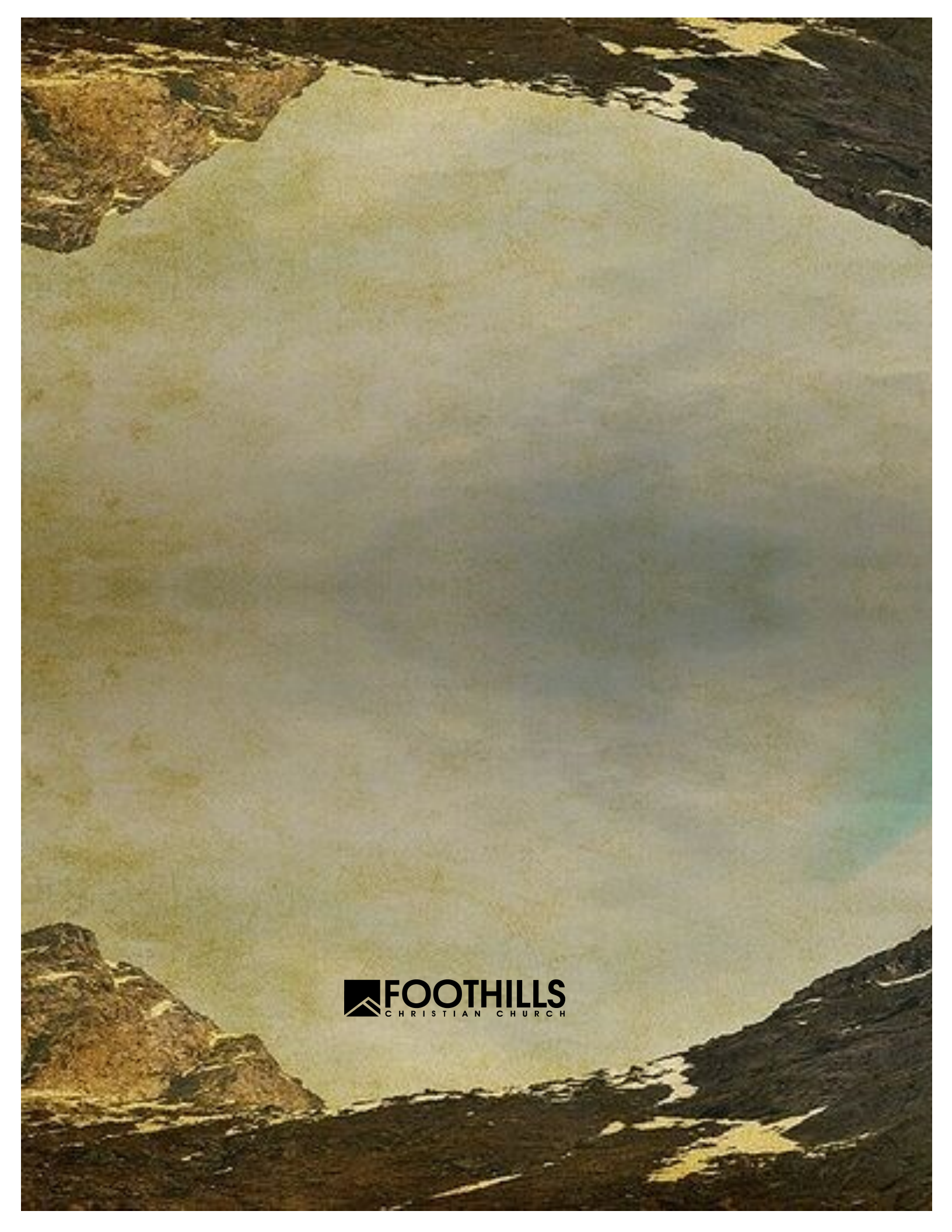
With words of knowledge we look around us (if we are in a public situation) for who the word may be for. If in a corporate meeting (home group, ministry situation, or church meeting) we seek to relate the word as the protocol dictates.

Always keep in mind moving in the supernatural always involves faith! In the Kingdom of God 'faith' is spelled 'RISK'!

If we make a mistake, we apologize and let it be a learning moment. God speaks perfectly, but we hear imperfectly!

Remember that a prophetic word or a word of knowledge is a seed. It may not seem like much at first, but when we water it through prayer and nurture it with obedience, miracles of fruitfulness spring up!

Lastly, always remember revelatory gifts are for serving people!



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