

Discipleship 301 Chapter 8

Open with insights on what you feel God's Spirit is doing in your life. Keep testimony short.

In this study we will be looking at the gifting of Deliverance. Mostly because it is important to the Ministry of the Spirit in the church and the strength of the church. It is almost non-existent in the church. You wonder where it mentions the gift of deliverance???

Mark 3:14-15, ¹⁴ He appointed twelve^[a] that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons.

1 Corinthians 12:27-31, ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues^[a]? Do all interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

In the beginning Jesus sent out his disciples, giving them an empowerment to preach the Word, cast out spirits and heal the sick. These are foundational for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God. When I first began to believe God was calling me to do deliverance I looked at scripture and told the Lord I didn't see that listed as a spiritual gift. He told me it is there but they (translators) didn't understand what was written. I had to look for it and discern what was meant in the wording. Working of miracles is authority to use the Holy Spirit against the powers of darkness, nothing more.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11, ⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues^[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues.^[b] ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

God has equipped the church (in the mantle of authority over it) with what it needs to do the work the Lord mandated in the beginning. Comment on the application of God's will to those seeking to serve him in light of these scriptures. Discuss these concepts.

Luke 10:1, After this the Lord appointed seventy-two^[a] others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.

Luke 10:17, The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

Authority is given to accomplish a task.

Disciple 301 Chpt 8 P2

Jesus made a statement at one time, that he did nothing except what his father gave him to do. When Paul was followed by a woman with a spirit which proclaimed who he represented.

Acts 16:17-18, She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." ¹⁸ She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.

Paul did not go looking for ways to attack Satan's kingdom but only cast the spirit out because it was annoying him. You have to keep in mind that if you set out to attack Satan's kingdom he will attack you. You need to focus on walking by faith in what the Lord gives you to do. Discuss what this means to you as one serving the Lord in this area?

Remember, it is said that he who is faithful in the little given will be given more. God has to trust you to move by faith in his will with what he gives you. He blesses you through obedience in faith. As you are obedient in trusting him in what he gives you, he increases you. How will you know if you have this gift and as you grow in faith how will the Spirit manifest itself in this area?

It may be a primary gifting in some to start with. In others it may be a secondary gifting, supplementing the ministry gifting you already have. The Holy Spirit will give an understanding and awareness of the spiritual realm in a greater way than before. Scriptures that represent the spiritual realm will have more meaning than before.

Ephesians 6:12, For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

All who turn to the Lord are delivered from bondage, some may take a while to be freed before being cleansed spiritually. When anyone makes a commitment to the Lord to trust in him he starts to help them surrender the areas of their life needed to be cleansed. The Spirit of the Lord comes in to dwell when the full surrender and cleansing happens. A good start to this ministry is praying for people who you feel God's spirit is at work in but are struggling in areas of their life. You can ask the Lord for discernment or revelation of what areas of a person's life need prayer. The saying, "behind every idol is a demon" is a true statement. The vulnerabilities in people are exploited by spirits. Some are curses brought on them. Some are there by actions taken and disposition of heart. Some are over people's lives due to sins of the family line. Many spirits can be commanded to be broken from their life or cast out with surrender of area of struggle to the Lord. Discuss what all this means to your ministry against spiritual forces.

Now have a time of prayer for each other, one by one. Pray that God's Spirit gives what is needed in this ministry. Also you can pray for any other gifts that you believe will enhance this ministry in each one. The need will be unique to each person and their calling.