

### *Gifts of the Holy Spirit Part 3*

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

Before we get into explaining the gifts mentioned in this chapter, I want to put them into three categories to help us remember them and better understand them.

The revelation gifts (These gifts deal with God giving the believer revelation concerning someone's life):

- Word of wisdom
- Word of Knowledge
- Discerning of spirits

The power gifts (These gifts result in the supernatural power of God):

- Working of miracles
- Gifts of healing
- Gift of faith

Speaking gifts (These gifts all involve the Holy Spirit inspiring the believer to speak):

- Prophecy
- Divers kinds of tongues
- Interpretation of tongues

1 Corinthians 12:8 The gift of the word of Knowledge

- This is not the gift of knowledge. This is the gift of the word of knowledge.
  - o When you receive a word of knowledge, it is a supernatural revelation of certain facts in the mind of God concerning someone's present or past.
  - o It is a WORD of knowledge. A word is a fragment or part of a sentence. So, a word of knowledge is just a fragment or part of the knowledge of God concerning someone's present or past.
  - o God has all knowledge, but He is not going to give you all His knowledge concerning someone. He's only going to give you a word.
- Let's look at some biblical examples of the gift of the word of knowledge first in the old testament and then in the new because all the gifts of the spirit were in operation in the old testament, mostly in the prophet, except for tongues and interpretation of tongues.
  - o 1 Kings 19:1-2
    - The prophet Elijah had just called fire down from heaven to reveal who the true God was and cut the heads off of Jezebel's prophets.

- She was angry and sent him a life-threatening message.
- This caused Elijah to run into the wilderness to mount Horeb in fear for His life. On that mountain the Lord came to him and he told the Lord in 1 Kings 19:14 how he thought he was the only one left serving the Lord and that all of Israel had forsaken God.
- But God gave a word of knowledge to Elijah in 1 Kings 19:18 that there were still seven thousand left that had not turned to Baal.
- This was a word to Elijah from God's knowledge about who had not backslid. It was a fact in the mind of God concerning the present state of Israel.
- This was also a word of knowledge being used to bring encouragement to the prophet to keep on going and not give up.
- 1 Kings 19:12 reveals that the administration of this word of knowledge was through a still small voice so an audible voice.
- 2 Kings 6:8-12
  - Here the prophet Elisha is receiving a word of knowledge about where the king of Syria who is at war with Israel is going to set up camp. So, he tells the king of Israel so he can avoid traveling through those places. Elisha does this multiple times.
  - The king of Syria thought they had a traitor among them spilling secrets to the enemy. But then someone told them that Elisha the prophet knew the words or plans the king was speaking in his bedchamber.
  - So, this was knowledge of something being said in the present that the only way Elisha could know it is if God revealed it to him through this gift.
  - So, we see hear the gift of the word of knowledge being used to avoid the enemy and miss his attacks.
  - It's not clear about the administration of the gift to Elisha.
- Revelation 1:10-20
  - Apostle John, in a vision, receives revelation and is told to write to the seven churches in Asia about their current state.
  - This is the gift of the word of knowledge at work as John writes about specific things going on in the churches that only God could know about. There's no way John could know personally because he is stuck alone on this island.
  - Notice that the gift of the word of knowledge came through a vision which is one of the different administrations of this gift.
- Acts 9:10-12
  - V10)

- So, Ananias is going to receive this word of knowledge through a vision as well.
    - Also notice that Ananias was just a disciple. Not a preacher or apostle.
  - V11-12)
    - So here we see that the Holy Spirit revealed knowledge in the mind of God concerning where Saul was, what he was doing at the moment, and the fact that Saul had seen in a vision Ananias coming and praying for him.
    - Now God had knowledge of everyone that was praying at the time, but he didn't reveal that knowledge to Ananias. He gave him a word of knowledge or the only part of God's knowledge that he needed to know at the time.
- John 4:16-18
  - There's no way He could've known this but by the Holy Spirit.
  - John 4:29 shows us the results of this gift. It solidified to her that this was the Christ and enabled her to go and bring the whole city to Jesus.
  - If He would've just walked up to her and said hey, I'm the messiah, she would've thought He was a nut Job. But with the working of the gifts, she believed.
- The gift of the word of knowledge can be used to get someone healed.
  - The first time I received a word of knowledge was in my first revival I ever had. It was at the end of church service and I had finished preaching and one of the members of the church was conducting the testimony part of the service. At that time, the Lord spoke to me through an inward witness to pray for a certain man's kidneys to be healed. I hesitated out of fear and the next thing I know, that man stood up and asked if he could get prayer because he was going in for tests the next morning for his kidneys. What if I would've moved before he asked for prayer? How great would his faith for healing have been had I jumped up and said the Lord showed me to pray for your kidneys?
  - Don't let fear of being wrong cause you to not allow these gifts to work in your life. So, what if you miss it every now and then as long as your heart is in the right place. Meaning that you are not trying to deceive anybody or draw attention to yourself. You are sincerely trying to help them.
  - Whenever you hear me calling out certain body parts to be healed in church service, this is the gift of the word of knowledge at work to help get people healed of those ailments.
- The gift of the word of knowledge can be used in prayer.

- A pastor and his wife adopted a troubled youth who ended up giving his life to the Lord. One day, when this young man left the house, the pastor's wife felt an urgency to pray. As she was praying, she saw in a vision this young man walking into a pool hall. She kept praying and then she saw a vision of him taking three steps into the pool hall and coming back out. She felt peace at that moment, so she went back to what she was doing. The young man came home and told his mother that he had won a great battle that day and she said I know and then told him the vision. He said that's exactly what happened.
- So, a word of knowledge revealed to the woman how to pray and her prayers, aided by the gift of the word of knowledge, kept that young man out of trouble.