

Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Part 4)

1 Corinthians 12:8-10 Remember we are dividing these gifts up into three categories:

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 wisdom

- Let me stress that these two gifts are not the gift of wisdom and the gift of knowledge. They are the gift of the word of wisdom and the gift of the word of knowledge.
 - o A word of wisdom is not wisdom for the general affairs of life or how to deal wisely with life's affairs. That wisdom does not come through a gift, it comes through the word or through prayer.
 - Josh 1:8
 - "Have good success", can also be translated as dealing wisely with the affairs of life. So, Joshua's wisdom to deal with the affairs of life is going to come through meditating on the word.
 - James 1:5
 - This scripture says that we need to pray for wisdom to deal with the affairs of life.
 - o So, when you call these gifts, the gift of wisdom or the gift of knowledge, it gives the idea that God is giving somebody a gift to be wise or knowledgeable in life in general.
 - o That kind of wisdom and knowledge is for everyone and comes through the word or prayer like we showed in prior scripture.

- When God wants to supernaturally reveal something specific in His mind concerning His plans for our future, then He does that through the gift of the word of wisdom.
- So, let's give a definition to the gift of the word of wisdom.
 - So, the gift of the word of wisdom is revelation by the Spirit concerning the purpose and plan in the mind and the will of God for someone's life.
 - Remember it's a word of wisdom or a fragment of wisdom. God has all wisdom concerning us, but He is only going to reveal a fragment of that wisdom to us. It will be the fragment we need.
 - Think of it like this: The gift of the word of knowledge reveals facts about the past and present and the gift of the word of wisdom reveals facts about the future.
 - If you're getting revelation about what a person may need to do in life or in certain situations or what may be in store for them in the future to help them direct their path, you are getting a word of wisdom.
 - Now God is not going to tell you their whole future and everything they are going to do and every little detail. It's a word of wisdom. A portion of wisdom. When you get into more than a portion, sometimes you are getting in yourself. And if you are hearing more than a portion for somebody, then it's usually manipulation.
 - Can you give a word of wisdom outside of the gifts? Yes, all the time. But there are those special times when you don't know what to say and only the Holy Spirit knows what to do that you need this gift in operation.
- The gift of the word of wisdom and the gift of the word of knowledge often worked together in scripture.
 - In the Old Testament we see them working together with the gift of prophecy in the ministry of the prophets.
 - The prophets not only prophesied about the things going on in the present state of Israel, which is a word of knowledge, but also the near and distant future of Israel, which is a word of wisdom.
- Prophecy can be a vehicle in which other gifts can flow.
 - Prophecy is really just speaking as the mouthpiece of God.
 - But there is what I call the simple gift of prophecy which is found in 1 Corinthians 14:3
 - The simple gift of prophecy just edifies, exhorts, and comforts. It doesn't contain any revelation about facts in your past and present and it doesn't contain any revelation about your future.
 - When you begin to speak prophecy as God gives it to you and it starts revealing things about persons present or past, that's the gift of the word of knowledge coming through the vehicle of prophecy.

- Or when you begin to prophecy and it contains predictions or revelation about what God is going to do, that is the gift of the word of wisdom coming through the vehicle of prophecy.
 - So, when you start hearing revelation while prophecy is going on, that's not prophecy anymore, that's one of these two gifts being released through prophecy.
 - Just like if you ride in a car, that doesn't make you a car. You are just being transported in that car.
- Word of wisdom and word of knowledge operating together in the New Testament.
 - John on the Island of Patmos.
 - John received through a vision the current condition of the churches in Asia (word of knowledge) and then received through a vision instruction for what the churches must do and what was going to happen if they didn't (word of wisdom).
 - Ananias Acts 10:9-16 here we see the word of wisdom and the word of knowledge working together as Ananias is sent to Saul in a vision to pray for him.
 - V9-12 Words of knowledge manifesting.
 - We see in these verses that He reveals to Ananias specific facts about where Saul is. He's on a street called Straight staying with a man named Judas.
 - What he was doing: praying.
 - What he had seen: a vision of a man named Ananias coming and laying hands on him to receive his sight.
 - These are all facts in the mind of God concerning the present and past state of Saul.
 - V15-16 Words of wisdom manifesting
 - Saul is chosen to go and basically preach Jesus to the Jews, the gentiles, and the kings.
 - He is going to show him how he is going to suffer. This was not speaking of sickness but persecution during his ministry.
 - All of these things dealt with God's purpose and plan for Saul's future.
 - Acts 8:5;26-29 here we see the gift of the word of wisdom and the gift of the word of knowledge working together in Phillip's life.
 - (v26)
 - Phillip was an evangelist in the early church and when he had finished preaching in Samaria, he first receives a word of wisdom ministered through an angel.
 - So, an angel is one of the different administrations of the gifts.

- The angel gives him specific instructions regarding God’s plan for Phillip’s immediate future.
 - God wanted him to go south down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza.
 - Notice at the moment Phillip didn’t know why. He had to just obey by faith.
 - (v27-29)
 - So here we see why God wanted him to go down this road because he was going to meet the eunuch.
 - Then in verse 29, we see that Phillip receives a word of knowledge through the inward voice of the Holy Spirit.
 - It’s a word of knowledge because it’s present tense instruction.
 - Remember there are different administrations of the gifts. This word of knowledge came through the inward voice of the Holy Spirit, but the word of wisdom came through an angel.
 - But the result of these gifts working together in their different administrations was the salvation of the eunuch.
- Let’s look at the word of wisdom operating in the Old Testament.
 - God would often use a word of wisdom to warn people of future judgement or peril. Gen 6:13-18
 - Noah received revelation about the plan of God for the future judgement coming on the earth and mankind for their wickedness.
 - Noah also received revelation about the plan of God for him to build a boat that was going to save him and his family.
 - Through this word of wisdom, Noah was able to save himself and his family but also anyone else that would believe his warning of coming judgement.
 - A word of wisdom would be used to reveal God’s plan about who He wanted to use in the future. For example, Joseph. (Gen 37:6-11)
 - Notice the administration of this word of wisdom was through a dream.
 - So, from our understanding of the story of Joseph, we know that these words of wisdom were speaking of the fact that Joseph was going to eventually sit on the throne of Egypt and be second to none but Pharaoh, and while in this position, his family was going to come and make obeisance to him.
 - God didn’t give him all his wisdom about Joseph’s future. Just a word. Joseph didn’t even know this had anything to do with Egypt or what he would have to go through to see the word of wisdom manifest.

- But this word of wisdom helped him understand once he got to Egypt that it was God that sent him there, not his brothers and it helped him to forgive his brothers when he could've easily got revenge. (Gen 45:4-8)
- Sometimes a word of wisdom now will help you understand why you took the path you took and why certain things happened to you to bring you where you are.