

Examining The Gifts

Examining gifts which are often used in group prayer
against the work of the enemy.
(From I Corinthians 12:7-11)

Message of wisdom

"The gift of the word of wisdom is the special ability God gives to members of the body of Christ to receive instant insight on how a given situation or need is to be resolved or helped or healed."

A word of wisdom may come to us as an impression, an uninvited thought, a flash of insight after prayer, a word or sentence spoken inaudibly into our minds, a dream, or a vision.

Message of knowledge

"This is the supernatural revelation of facts about a person or situation, which is not learned through the efforts of the natural mind but is a fragment of knowledge freely given by God, disclosing the truth which the Spirit wishes to be made known concerning the person or situation."

A word of knowledge may come to us as an impression, an uninvited thought, a flash of insight after prayer, a sympathetic pain, a word or sentence spoken inaudibly into our minds, a word imposed on a scene we are observing, a dream, or a vision.

Faith

"This gift is a supernatural surge of confidence from God whereby a person in need knows supernaturally that God is about to act through a word or action."

When this gift is given, we may surprise ourselves by the force of our conviction that God is about to do something. Our own pronouncements, coming from this surge of faith, may even sound strange in our own ears because they are so extravagant.

Gifts of healing

"These gifts are channelled through human agents for the supernatural healing of diseases and infirmities to the glory of God."

The gifts are the healings themselves which God gives us to impart to others in prayer. We are only the "postmen" who deliver these gifts to those in need. Often God will select whom He wants to heal through a word of knowledge in which the specific condition is supernaturally revealed. Such healing may be spiritual, emotional, physical, or relational.

Miraculous powers

"The gift of miraculous powers operates through individual persons by the supernatural intervention of the Holy Spirit in the natural order."

Often God will precede the release of miraculous powers with a word of knowledge or a gift of faith.

Prophecy

"The gift of prophecy is the special ability that God gives to members of the body of Christ to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His gathered people, a group among them, or any one of His people individually, through a divinely anointed utterance."

Prophecies may come to us as strong impressions, statements inaudibly spoken into our minds, visions, dreams, or angelic announcements. When we share them with others, we are putting God's thoughts into our own words. Therefore, our prophecies are not the Word of God (i.e., Scripture), and we must take care that we don't misinterpret or misapply the revelation we receive.

Distinguishing between spirits

"This is a supernatural gift of perception given sovereignly by God to enable individuals in the church to distinguish the motivating spirit behind certain words or deeds".

Supernatural discernment may come as strong impressions, words, or sentences inaudibly spoken into our minds, the ability to see shadows on a person's body or another face imposed over an individual's face.

Tongues

"This is the spontaneous inspired utterance by the Holy Spirit, wherein the normal voice organs are used but the conscious mind plays no part. The languages spoken or sung are entirely unlearned by the speaker."

Interpretation of tongues

"This gift is a supernatural revelation through the Holy Spirit which enables the Christian believer to communicate in the language of the listeners the dynamic equivalent of that which was spoken in tongues."

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