

LOVE INTERNATIONAL OUTRECH FELLOWSHIP
SCHOOL OF TRAINING



HOLY SPIRIT AND HIS GIFTS – Lesson 3

THE 'REVELATION GIFTS' OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION – Things Revealed

DEUTERONOMY 29:29 NKJV

“The secret *things belong* to the LORD our God, BUT THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE REVEALED *belong* to us and to our children forever, that we may DO all the words of this law.”

- ✚ Under the Old Covenant, the prophets tried to convey to the people that the Lord God **revealed things** for their good and the good of their children.
- ✚ **The heart of God has always been for the good of His people.** If there was ever something revealed to the prophets that would expose the idolatry of Israel, or a correction spoken to them from the Lord God, it was only for the purpose of bringing them back to Himself, to a place of humble repentance, to ‘do’ all His words and be blessed with their children.
- ✚ **The heart and desire of God has not changed.** When things are revealed by God’s Spirit and spoken through His prophets or prophetic voices, it is always with the intent to bless people, to lift their hearts into a higher place of faith, to encourage and comfort them, and to bring them into new expressions of liberty in Christ.

DESIRE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

I CORINTHIANS 14:1 NKJV

“Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.”

- ✚ The Apostle Paul exhorted the church to ‘desire spiritual gifts’ because He knew that the **gifts of the Spirit are not toys, but tools.** The Lord does not give the gifts of the Spirit for our entertainment, but because we need them for spiritual effectiveness in ministry.

NINE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT – For the ‘Common Good’

I CORINTHIANS 12:7-11 (English Standard Version)

⁷ To each (*one*) is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good (*for the profit and benefit of all*). ⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance (*word*) of wisdom, and to another the utterance (*word*) of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another (*special*) faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish (*discern*) between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these (*manifestations*) are empowered by one and the same (*Holy*) Spirit, who apportions (*distributes, assigns*) to each one individually as He wills.

- ✚ **The Apostle Paul explained that these nine Gifts/manifestations are assigned by the Holy Spirit to believers and are operated, empowered, and directed as He wills and chooses.** Each gift is uniquely designed by God and will be anointed by the Spirit as these gifts operate.
- ✚ **When prophetic revelation comes forth it is profitable for the common good.** Individuals, families, churches, people groups, nations, and leaders on every level can be blessed, challenged, and set free by the information that the Holy Spirit prophetically reveals.
- ✚ **Things that are revealed by the Holy Spirit will expose satan and the works of darkness.**
- ✚ **Holy Spirit is bringing the Church higher, to seek more of Him and receive more from Him.** When we seek God, our motives must be always be pure, seeking Him because we love Him and yet knowing that He wants to give us more revelation, anointing, and all the nine Gifts.
- ✚ **Growing in spiritual sensitivity is vital for the Church to be truly effective in these last days.** The Holy Spirit is changing us, challenging us, and expanding us to bring us into higher levels of seeing, hearing, and knowing the heart and mind of God. We are being molded as pure, obedient vessels, knowing how to be led by His Spirit, having clear discernment and accurate prophetic revelation, interpretation, and application.

Be Responsible with the Gifts You Have Been Given

MARK 4:25 (Passion)

“For those who listen with open hearts will receive more revelation. But those who don’t listen with open hearts will lose what little they think they have.”

- ✚ **Those who yield their hearts to the Lord, to know Him better, and to use their gifts faithfully, will be entrusted with more.** It is the responsibility of every believer to properly use and steward the giftings that the Holy Spirit has assigned to them to the best of their ability. “When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required.” Luke 12:48 NLT

HEBREWS 5:14 NKJV

“But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

- ✚ We are exhorted to faithfully practice the use of our gifts so we can become mature in spiritual sensitivity. Each gift must be developed from an elementary stage to a mature stage.
- ✚ **THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT ARE EXPLAINED IN THREE CATEGORIES:**
 1. **‘Inspiration’/‘Vocal Gifts’** (3 gifts that ‘say’ something) - **Prophecy / Gift of Tongues / The Interpretation of Tongues** (See notes for Lesson #2)
 2. **‘Revelation Gifts’** (3 gifts that ‘know’ something) - **The Word of Knowledge /The Word of Wisdom/Discerning of Spirits**
 3. **‘Power Gifts’** (3 gifts that ‘do’ something) - **(Special) Faith / The Working of Miracles / Gifts of Healing(s)**

THE THREE REVELATION GIFTS

The Word of Knowledge / The Word of Wisdom / Discerning of Spirits

I CORINTHIANS 2:9-10

⁹ But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

¹⁰ But God has REVEALED them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD.”

✚ What does it mean for God to ‘REVEAL’ something to us?

1) To make known; to disclose; to divulge. 2) To lay open to view; to display; to exhibit.

✚ The Holy Spirit reveals the ‘Deep Things’ of God. This is revelation that’s hidden from natural eyes, things not seen or known. This can be information about God Himself, or about things He knows and chooses to reveal to us.

DANIEL 2:19-23 (TLV) The Prophet Daniel declared how God reveals deep/hidden things.

“During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven and answered, saying: “Blessed be the Name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. He changes times and seasons. He removes kings and installs kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things. He knows what lies in darkness and light dwells with Him. To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise! For You gave me wisdom and power. You have made known to me what we asked of You. You revealed to us the king’s demand.”

JOHN 16:14-15 NKJV

(Words of Jesus) ¹⁴ He (*the Holy Spirit*) will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and DECLARE it to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and DECLARE it to you.”

✚ ‘DECLARE’ means: 1) Make Known or State Clearly. 2) Announce; Proclaim. 3) Manifest; Reveal; Show.

THERE ARE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF REVELATION

✚ The Holy Spirit reveals and communicates the mind and thoughts of God to us in various ways. It is important for us to understand the various levels of prophetic revelation.

IMPRESSIONS: Most of what is called ‘prophecy’ today is the lowest level of prophetic revelation, which is the impression level. An ‘impression’ may be an inner perception, seeing, or knowing, and then you express it in your own way. An impression may also be a ‘hunch’, prompting, or ‘gut feeling.’ When you get an impression, it is best not to say, “Thus says the Lord” because it was an impression. We just call it what it is—an impression. We must be careful not to ‘taint’ these impressions that are from the Lord with our own thoughts, personal doctrines, etc. As we become more mature and sensitive in the prophetic gifts, the gentle nudges from the Holy Spirit will seem louder or more forceful. As we grow in confidence in what He is impressing on us, we can become more bold.

VISIONS: Visions can come on several levels, ranging from those whom you see with the ‘eyes of your heart’ to ‘open visions’ which are like watching a movie screen. If you pray for

someone, you may see a vision or inner picture with the ‘eyes of your heart,’ or a ‘pictorial vision’ in your mind. These inward gentle visions may sometimes have biblical symbolism in them that can be interpreted from Scripture. For example, if you are praying over someone and you ‘see’ an inner picture of ‘rain,’ the symbolism in the Scripture for ‘rain’ is often of ‘teaching.’ **Deuteronomy 32:2 says: “Let my teaching drop as the rain.”** So if you have an inward vision of rain, it may be that the person is called as a teacher. If you see an inward vision of ‘feet’ it may mean that the person is called as an evangelist, etc.

On the other hand, if you just share your inward vision with the person that you’re praying for, they may know exactly what it means. You can say, “I am seeing...” or “Does this picture mean anything to you?” Those revelations that appear meaningless to us may often be a ‘shout from heaven’ to those who receive the word.

OPEN VISIONS: ‘Open visions’ are a higher level of revelation than the gentle visions we see with the ‘eyes of our heart.’ These visions are vivid and distinct, and we cannot miss what the Lord is saying. An example of this type of vision was given to Cornelius, the centurion, who “**clearly saw in a vision an angel from God**” (Acts 10:3). This revelation was so clear that Cornelius carried on a conversation with the angel in the vision. This type of vision, an ‘open vision’ is not always commonly given and is used many times by God to communicate matters of great importance. This type of vision caused Cornelius and the Gentiles to have faith in Christ for salvation. Some people operate in this high level of revelation frequently.

DREAMS: Dreams are also a common form of revelation. Like visions, dreams can have different levels of clarity and revelation. Dreams are sometimes called ‘night-visions’ or a ‘sleeping vision.’ Some dreams are gentle nudges from the Lord; others are bold and direct. Some may be from the pizza you had the night before or thoughts you were thinking when you went to bed, but others can be specifically from the Lord and we need to recognize and distinguish them. Dreams that are from the Lord are usually easy to recognize, even though we may not always know what they mean.

TRANCES: What is probably the next highest form of revelation is the one used by the Lord to tell Peter that He was to go to Cornelius’ house: “**he fell into a trance**” (Acts 10:10). A trance is like having a dream while you are awake. Suddenly, you are caught up into a vision that is so real it seems as though you are literally there, but you are wide awake and aware of when you leave and when you return. These experiences are quite frequent in both the Old and New Testaments. John’s revelation of the Isle of Patmos would fall into the category of a trance, and the experiences of Ezekiel as when he was caught up and brought to Jerusalem, and when Paul was caught up to the third heaven. (II Corinthians 12:2-4)

OTHER PROPHETIC EXPERIENCES: There are other kinds of high-level prophetic experiences such as hearing the audible voice of the Lord, being visited by angels, or even having a divine visitation by the Lord Jesus Himself which is the highest form of visitation (Acts 23:11).

1st Revelation Gift: ‘THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE’

DEFINITION OF THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE:

- Supernatural revelation by the Holy Spirit of specific facts.
- An instant knowledge from God’s infinite knowledge.
- A word for a particular season or time, for a particular person or people, for a particular purpose, for a need at a particular time.

THIS GIFT OF THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE IS NOT:

- General knowledge
- Amplification of human knowledge.
- Intellectual capability.
- Knowledge based on study.
- Earn acquisition but a gift by faith.

THREE LEVELS OF KNOWLEDGE:

- Human or Natural Knowledge
- True Biblical or Divine Knowledge
- The Holy Spirit Gift of the Word of Knowledge – The operation of the gift of the Holy Spirit in which an individual receives a thought from the heart of God and expresses an inspired word by faith, for the growth and establishment of His Church. It is beyond natural; it is of God’s higher thoughts and ways.

HOW DOES THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE OPERATE?

- Motivated by the **Spirit**.
- Activated by the **faith** of the individual.
- Ministered by **obedience** to the Word of God.
- Developed by “reason of use.”

SOME PURPOSES OF THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE:

1. To reveal **the cause of sickness or demonic possession**.
2. To reveal **God’s divine place for meetings**.
3. To reveal **root problems** in counseling situations.
4. To reveal **secrets of men’s hearts** so that **repentance** comes.
5. To give **insight** into people’s lives for **intercessory prayer**.
6. To reveal **lost persons or property**.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE:

1. I Samuel 9:16; 10:1-9; 10:21-22
2. I Kings 14:2-3,5 – Jereboam’s wife.
 - The Word of Knowledge has the ability to penetrate through all human facades and pretenses.
3. 2 Kings 5:20-27 – Exposes Gehazi’s greed.
4. John 4:1-42. Jesus met a Samaritan woman (for evangelism)
 - This gift is powerful – God wants ALL saints to be moving in all nine of the Gifts.
5. 2 Kings 6:8-12
 - The King of Aram was at war with Israel. The Prophet Elisha warned the Israelites of the location; they prepared and were saved.
6. Acts 5:1-11.
 - The wicked hearts Ananias and Sapphira were exposed to Peter and God’s immediate judgement was pronounced.
 - The Word of Knowledge purged the church of corruption and deception, established reverence for God, and holiness and truth in the church.

7. **John 1:4-4.** Jesus received a word of knowledge about Nathaniel. This word of knowledge was given by Jesus to Nathaniel at the right time, and it when straight to his heart and opened a door for God to minister.
8. **Acts 10:19** – Peter, by a word of knowledge knew that three men were seeking him. By a word of wisdom He was told what to do.
9. **Other examples of the Gift of the Word of Knowledge:**
Luke 22:31-34. 2 Samuel 12:7-13; Matthew 9:2-6; Acts 9:11-12,17.

2nd Revelation Gift: 'THE WORD OF WISDOM'

✚ **DEFINITION OF THE WORD OF WISDOM:**

- **The supernatural ability in the Spirit to impart special and specific insight, instruction, guidance, or counsel. It brings life-changing illumination and aids in making course-changing decisions.**
- This is God-given wisdom and revelation for the purposes of God concerning people, things, or events presently or in the future.
- The heart of God giving us strategy, insight, or plans not yet revealed.
- **The Word of Wisdom tells us how to apply the recently revealed facts or knowledge** – this is like the Spirit of Wisdom which goes together with the Spirit of Revelation, giving us the mind of God for proper application of revelation we have received. (Isaiah 11:2; see the notes from Holy Spirit Lesson #1)
Ephesians 1:17-18 NKJV ¹⁷ “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,”
- Those who operate in receiving revelation from the Holy Spirit should seek for the supernatural Gift of the Word of Wisdom (the Spirit of Wisdom, Isaiah 11:2) to know, by the mind of God, how to strategically apply information for a given situation.

✚ **IT IS NOT** a gift of wisdom or insight gained through life’s experiences, or making the right decision based upon education, training, or events.

✚ **THREE LEVELS OF WISDOM:**

1. **Natural or worldly wisdom.**

1 Corinthians 1:20, 22, 27 NCV (Words of Apostle Paul) ²⁰ “Where is the wise person? Where is the educated person? Where is the skilled talker of this world? God has made the wisdom of the world foolish. ²² The Jews ask for miracles, and the Greeks want wisdom. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and he chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.”

- **The Apostle Paul understood by the Spirit of God that worldly wisdom was foolish, and that supernatural demonstration was far more convincing than eloquent speeches.** He wanted the believers’ faith to rest in God’s power not in human wisdom (I Cor. 2:1)

1 Corinthians 2:7,13. NCV ⁷ “I speak God’s secret wisdom, which He has kept hidden. Before the world began, God planned this wisdom for our glory. ¹³ And we speak about these things, not with words taught us by human wisdom but with words taught us by the Spirit. And so we explain spiritual truths to spiritual people.”

Worldly Wisdom: Solomon revealed that pursuing worldly wisdom --“wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven” is vanity. (Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:11, 13; 12:12-13)

2. **Biblical or Divine Wisdom** (this is not the Word of Wisdom)

This wisdom comes from God and His Word that is taken into our **heart**. Prayerful **study** and **meditation** of the Scriptures increases this sound wisdom, godly wisdom.
Ecclesiastes 9:16-18 ¹⁶ *“Wisdom is better than strength. ¹⁸ Wisdom is better than weapons of war.”*

3. **THE GIFT OF THE WORD OF WISDOM** – a supernatural ability given by the Holy Spirit - as described in the definition above.

✚ **EXAMPLES OF THE GIFT OF THE WORD OF WISDOM.**

1. **Genesis 41** – Joseph interpreted Pharaoh’s dreams by receiving revelation from God in order to perceive the true interpretation of the dreams. By a supernatural **word of wisdom**, Joseph warned Pharaoh of the seven-year famine and gave supernatural guidance to avert destruction.
2. **Exodus 3** – Moses needed a **word of wisdom** many times while leading the children of Israel out of Egypt.
3. **I Kings 3:16-28** – Justice was administered by Solomon.
4. **Genesis 6:14-18** – Noah was forewarned to build an ark.
5. **Genesis 19** – Lot was forewarned of the coming destruction of Sodom and what to do.
6. **Acts 27:21-25**. Paul told the crew what to do and that all would survive.
7. **JOHN 16:13** *“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*

3rd Revelation Gift: ‘THE GIFT OF DISCERNING OF SPIRITS’

✚ **DEFINITION OF THE GIFT OF DISCERNING OF SPIRITS**

The supernatural ability to discern which spirit is motivating human words and behaviors. It is a quickening sense in the spirit by the Holy Spirit into the realm of the spirit.

✚ **THERE ARE THREE SOURCES OF SPIRITS: 1. Human spirits. 2. Demonic spirits. 3. Holy Spirit**

✚ **THIS GIFT OPERATES ON TWO LEVELS:**

1. **GENERAL:** The determination of the ‘spiritual source’ of a word, attitude, or individual action, of an atmosphere or environment corporately helping to determine if something is divine, devilish, or of human origin.
 - **The Bible refers to:**
 - a. **The Word of God** (I Peter 1:23-25)
 - b. **The doctrine and traditions of men** (Colossians 2:22)
 - c. **The doctrine of demons** (1 Timothy 4:1)
 - **Just as there is:**
 - a. The wisdom of God (I Corinthians 1:30)
 - b. The wisdom of man (I Corinthians 1:20; 2:4-5)
 - c. The counsel of the ungodly (Psalm 1:1; James 3:15)
2. **SPECIFIC OPERATION OF THE GIFT: The ability to identify specific evil spirits and their devices.** (Mark 5:8-9; Acts 16:16-18)

- **Discerning of Spirits** is a safeguard against deception (I Corinthians 14:29; I Thessalonians 5:20-21)
- **'Discerning'** in the Greek is "judging through." The idea in the Greek is **piercing of all that is outward and seeing right through.**
- **This Gift is NOT:** A keen human insight, or an evaluation based on what is seen.

✚ THREE LEVELS OF DISCERNMENT

1. **Natural** – Perception through observing actions, words, and mannerisms. (Natural sight)
2. **Psychic** – Man was created in God's image as a creative being with spiritual desires and discernment. The human spirit has great power, and when it is given over to the realm of the spiritual of darkness, embracing that which is not of God, a 'gate of hell' is opened.
3. **Divine Gift** – The God-given ability, by the "eye of the Holy Spirit," to 'see' into the three realms of the spirit: the kingdom of darkness, the kingdom of light and the human spirit (Colossians 1:13). **The Holy Spirit communicates the motive or origin of an action, attitude, or an atmosphere.** With it, we can detect (discern) the Lord's divine leading and presence, and demonic activity in people, or over geographical locations, or human motives which would cause a person to act or think a certain way.

✚ BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

1. **Matthew 16:15-23.** Jesus discerned that Peter was speaking from the wrong spirit and said, "*Get thee behind me Satan.*"
2. **Acts 8:23.** Peter discerned that Simon's motives were wrong when he asked for the Holy Spirit.
3. **Acts 13:9-12.** Holy Spirit revealed to Paul that Barjesus was a child of the devil who opposed everything that was upright. Paul spoke a judgement against him and he was blind for a season.
4. **Acts 16:16-18.** Paul discerned a woman at Phillipi was possessed with a spirit of divination.

✚ HOW DOES THE GIFT OF DISCERNING OF SPIRITS OPERATE?

1. **It is motivated by the Holy and activated by a person's faith.**
2. **It can come as:**
 - A flash of revelation in your thoughts
 - A vision
 - A slight mental impression
 - Through a prophetic flow
3. **It can come as an inner alert as the spirit realm affects our physical senses.**
Hebrews 5:14 says we have our senses exercised to know (discern) both good and evil.
CAUTION: Never attribute critical or judgmental thinking to this gifting. The Lord does not sanction fault-finding or 'flesh detectives' operating out of divisive and unloving hearts.

✚ SOME OF THE PURPOSES OF THE GIFT OF DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

1. To reveal **demonic principalities** and powers over geographical areas.
2. To reveal specific **demonic spirits** that are hindering or possessing people.
3. To reveal what is in an individual's **human spirit** that would cause them to say or act in a particular manner.
4. To reveal the direction and flow that the **Holy Spirit** has for a service.



SYLLABUS FOR THE HOLY SPRIT AND HIS GIFTS – LESSON 3

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