

40 Days *WITH* the HOLY SPIRIT

Small Group Curriculum

Session Two

THE REVELATION GIFTS (A)

Overview of Spiritual Gifts

Ministry Gifts	Manifestation Gifts	Motivational Gifts
<i>Ephesians 4:11-12</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 12:8-10</i>	<i>Romans 12:6-8, 1 Peter 4:9-11</i> <i>1 Corinthians 12:28</i>
Given by Christ the Church	Given by the Holy Spirit to the Church	Abilities given by God to the person (how we are wired)
Apostle	Word of Wisdom	Service (<i>helps</i>)
Prophet	Word of Knowledge	Teaching
Evangelist	Discerning of Spirits	Encouragement
Pastor	Faith	Giving
Teacher	Healing	Leadership
	Working of Miracles	Mercy
	Prophecy	Hospitality
	Tongues	Administration
	Interpretation of Tongues	Speaking
		Music/Singing
		Counseling

*1 Corinthians 12:8-11 (nkjv) for to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, to another the **word of knowledge** through the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another **discerning of spirits**, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

Paul particularly mentions the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit whom the Holy Spirit distributes and empowers believers with.

The Revelation Gifts: Word of Wisdom - Word of Knowledge - Discerning of Spirits

The Gift of the Word of Wisdom

*1 Corinthians 12:8a (nkjv) “for to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit.”*

This gift is not a constant fountain of God’s wisdom for all circumstances. Each time it is given, it is a new flash of divine wisdom, a quick revelation from the Holy Spirit.

Definition: Wisdom is the **right use** or **proper application** of knowledge.
Wisdom knows **how** to **handle** knowledge correctly and effectively.

This spiritual gift is not human wisdom or insight; it is a portion or fragment of God’s wisdom given to the believer through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

This flash of divine wisdom can solve a problem where human reasoning fails.

Jesus operated the Word of Wisdom

*Matthew 21:23-27 (nkjv) Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, “By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?”²⁴ **But Jesus answered and said to them, “I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things:²⁵ The baptism of John - where was it from? From heaven or from men?”** And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’²⁶ But if we say, ‘From men,’ we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet.”²⁷ So they answered Jesus and said, “We do not know.” And He said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.*

Jesus answered them with a seemingly unrelated question (*a flash of divine wisdom*) that exposed their real motives.

*James 1:5 (tev) **If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.***

As Spirit filled followers of Jesus, we do not need to stumble around for answers and solutions; we should ask and believe that the Holy Spirit will reveal to us what we need through a Word of wisdom.

The Gift of the Word of Knowledge

*1 Corinthians 1:8b (nkjv) “to another the **word of knowledge** through the same Spirit.”*

This knowledge is not gained by study and learning. It is the Holy Spirit who reveals a ‘*fragment*’ or a ‘*portion*’ of knowledge or information.

Knowledge and information, that is **NOT** humanly impossible to know.
It may concern the past, present or the future.

In *Acts 5:1-11* Peter received a Word of Knowledge concerning Ananias and Sapphira’s dishonest business transaction.

*¹Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. ²With his wife’s full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles’ feet. ³Then Peter said, “**Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?** ⁴Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of*

doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God.”⁵ When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened.⁶ Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.⁷ About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.⁸ Peter asked her, “Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?” “Yes,” she said, “that is the price.”⁹ Peter said to her, “How could you conspire to test the Spirit of the Lord? Listen! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also.”¹⁰ At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband.¹¹ **Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.**

The result of this Word of Knowledge was the fear of God entered into the hearts of the people who now had a wholesome dread of displeasing God.

It is important to note that often the Word of Wisdom works hand-in-hand with the Word of Knowledge.

Remembering that wisdom is the right or proper use of knowledge.

DISCUSSION

- Ask questions for clarification or provide comments from the teaching and discuss as a group.
- Share with your group examples of words of wisdom or words of knowledge from your own experience.
- As a group, you may wish to discuss some of the points in the ‘Further Study’ section below to generate further discussion.

PRAYER

Please take time before you finish your discussion to pray for any needs that those in your group may have.

FURTHER STUDY

Ways where the gift of the Word of Wisdom can operate:

1. This gift is needed to **interpret Scripture** and how to apply it.
(*1 Corinthians 2:1; 6-7; Acts 6:10*)
2. **Leadership:** Leaders need divine wisdom to know how to direct the affairs of the church.
(*Acts 15:25-28*)
3. **Pastoral Ministry:** This gift is vitally important in restoring and assisting people through wise counsel. (*1 Corinthians 7:25 nlt; 40b nlt “...you counsel from God’s Spirit...” 2 Peter 3:15 nlt*)
4. **Business Matters:** Those who guide the business affairs of the church and Christian business people need the impartation of divine wisdom.
5. **Emergencies:** The Lord can give warning of danger and instruction for safety through a word of His wisdom. (*Acts 23:1-7*)
6. **Serving God:** God can reveal and direct us how His work can be accomplished through us.
(*Acts 13:2; 16:6-7; Galatians 2:1-2*)

7. **Guidance:** When circumstances leave the believer confused and not knowing which way to turn, or what is the right answer, this gift can reveal the choice, action or direction that will prosper under God's blessing. (*James 1:5-6*)
8. **Defense of the Truth:** When we give witness of the truth, and testify about Christ before the ungodly, there is a promise of divine wisdom. (*Luke 21:14-15 nlt; Acts 7:54 - Stephen*)

Ways where the gift of the Word of Knowledge can operate:

1. **Preaching / Teaching:** This gift reveals and brings to life the hidden truths of Scripture so they can be passed onto the Church.
2. **Revelation of Actions:** Knowledge about the activities or behaviour that concern the person whom receives the gift. (*John 1:48; 4:18; Acts 9:10-12; 10:4-6, 19-20; 27:21-26*)

Revelation of Facts: Information about people, places, events, that is needed by someone to enable them to fulfil the purpose of God. (*John 4:52-53; Luke 5:4-8; John 21:5-6*)

Knowledge may also be revealed simply as a sign to lead a person to repentance and faith. (*John 4 Jesus and the woman at the well*)

3. **Revelation of Truth:** Understanding of the true nature of a person, object, or situation. (*Matthew 16:16*) Understanding false doctrine and practise. (*Luke 21:14-15; 12:11-12*)