

Spiritual Gifts Activation Seminar

Session Four: Mercy and Miracles

Review

- ⊕ Definition of a Spiritual Gift: A supernatural ability given by the Holy Spirit to every member of the Body of Christ according to God's grace to build up believers and to make disciples of Christ.
- ⊕ Discovering your spiritual gifts is discovering your identity and destiny.
- ⊕ Exercising our Spiritual gifts depend on our ability to hear the voice of Holy Spirit
- ⊕ Our ability to hear God is as good as the condition of our heart.

Gift of Mercy

- ⊕ The gift of mercy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals (both Christian & non – Christian) who suffer distressing physical, mental, or emotional problems, and to translate that compassion into cheerfully done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate the suffering.
- ⊕ "But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd" (Matt.9:36)
- ⊕ "And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick" (Matt.14:14)
- ⊕ "...If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness [mercy] to others, do it gladly" (Rom.12:8)

Some Characteristics of Biblical Mercy

- ⊕ It's different than sympathy which is merely a feeling. Mercy moves one to action.
- ⊕ It's a deep powerful urge which originates more in our belly than in our head.
- ⊕ Those operating in the gift of mercy exhibit a lifestyle of mercy and compassion.
- ⊕ Mercy demonstrates cheerful acts without expectation of earthly reward beyond the fulfillment of seeing someone helped.

Gift of Miracles

- ⊕ The gift of miracles is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom it pleases God to perform such powerful acts that are perceived by observers to have altered the ordinary course of nature.

Some Characteristics of the Gift of Miracles

- ⊕ The gift of miracles is generally more dramatic than the gift of healing.
- ⊕ Examples: Dead are raised, blind eyes and deaf ears open, paraplegics walk, water is turned to wine, etc.

- ⊕ Miracles are intended to be signs to draw attention to the fact that God is powerful and merciful. It's an evangelistic tool.
- ⊕ Mercy and miracles worked together in Jesus' ministry

Gift of Tongues

- ⊕ The gift of tongues is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ (a) to speak to God in a language they have never learned and/or (b) to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely – anointed utterance in a language they have never learned.

About the Gift of Tongues

- ⊕ The Gift of tongues was one of the initial manifestations when the Holy Spirit was poured out in the upper room when the church was birthed (Acts 2:4)
- ⊕ Tongues is frequently the initial manifestation of being baptized in the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:5,6). It's often the doorway to operate in other spiritual gifts.
- ⊕ Typically this gift operates as our prayer language (1 Cor. 14:2). Our spirit prays to God while our minds have little understanding of the message. Operating in this gift builds up our faith (Jude 20)
- ⊕ Occasionally speaking in tongues is a message from God to all who are present. In such case it needs to be interpreted. The interpretation of tongues is another spiritual gift. Tongues and interpretation working together is like delivering a prophetic word.

Assignment

- ⊕ Pray about and look for opportunities to operate in the gifts of mercy, miracles and tongues.
 - Be intentional about performing some acts of kindness and/or mercy this week.
 - Ask the Lord for an opportunity to operate in a gift of miracles. Look for it.
 - Exercise your gift of tongues often in prayer. If you have never spoken in tongues ask for the gift.