

Spiritual Gifts Activation Seminar

Session 5: The Gifts of Faith and Service

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.
- ⊕ Spiritual Gifts flow from our "belly" with "other worldly" mercy, power and discernment.
- ⊕ Operating in Spiritual Gifts is operating way beyond our own natural resources.

The Trinity in Gift Ministry

- ⊕ *"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord"* (1 Cor.12:4-5 NIV)
- ⊕ *"And there are distinctive varieties of operation [of working to accomplish things], but it is the same God Who inspires and energizes them all in all"* (v.6 AMP)
- ⊕ Holy Spirit decides what gifts we will receive.
- ⊕ Jesus will decide what kind of ministry we will have.
- ⊕ Father determines the magnitude or effects of our ministry (Our faithfulness does also).

Understanding Power Encounters

- ⊕ John Wimber stated that any system or force that must be overcome for the gospel to be believed is cause for a power encounter... The expulsion of demons is most dramatic, though power encounters are far from limited only to those where Satan takes the form of the demonic.
- ⊕ Power encounters are also about the power of the Holy confronting and/or filling up individuals. Such experiences bring us in alignment with the Kingdom of God.
- ⊕ Conflict always accompanies power encounters.

Truth Encounter

- ⊕ A truth encounter is any clear declaration of the gospel of Jesus Christ either preceding or following a power encounter. While a power encounter challenges the powers of darkness, a truth encounter challenges the false teachings of a religion or society holding people in bondage. It is essential that a truth encounter always accompany a power encounter.
- ⊕ Power encounters and truth encounters may or may not be dramatic, accompanied by emotional and physical manifestations.

The Gift of Faith

- ⊕ The gift of faith is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to discern with extraordinary confidence certain miracles and/or works of God that the Holy Spirit is ready to accomplish. This confidence releases them to perform "risky", bold works of God for His glory.

Different Kinds of Faith

- ⊕ Common Christian Faith:
 - ⊕ Saving Faith: Every Christian is saved by receiving forgiveness of their sins and the gift of salvation by faith.
 - ⊕ Praying Faith: The faith we exercise when we bring our petitions to God.
 - ⊕ Persevering Faith: The faith we exercise to remain faithful during trials.

- ⊕ The Gift of Faith: A supernatural unction of great faith given by Holy Spirit to believers to perform miracles in the name of Jesus

Characteristics of the Gift of Faith

- ⊕ Sometimes the gift comes spontaneously to fulfill an immediate need for a miracle, but leaves when the miracle is accomplished.
- ⊕ Sometimes the gift of faith accompanies an extra ordinary vision or calling God places on a man or woman.
 - ⊕ For example Reinhart Bonnke , an extraordinary evangelist in Africa, says and believes that all of Africa shall be saved.
- ⊕ Obedience to the word of the Lord is key to activating this gift.

The Gift of Service

- ⊕ The gift of service is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and to help accomplish the desired results.

Defining Christian Service

- ⊕ Servants in Jesus' day were considered to be those who did the most undesirable and menial tasks.
 - ⊕ Jesus washed His disciples' feet (John 13:3-5).
 - ⊕ Jesus serves us by healing and saving us.
- ⊕ Serving is getting excited about making someone else successful.
- ⊕ Jesus said the greatest ones in the kingdom are the servants of all (Matt.20:26)
- ⊕ The Greek word, diakonos, is translated both servant and minister.

When You Have the Gift of Service

- ⊕ You notice unmet needs related to God's work regardless of how significant or menial they may be.
- ⊕ You get excited about being proactive to meet these needs.
- ⊕ You experience a deep sense of fulfillment knowing that you are bringing glory to God as you meet these needs.
- ⊕ You are not looking for praises from others as a reward for the work you accomplished.

Assignment

- ⊕ Review areas in your life where you need mountains to be moved.
- ⊕ Make willful choices to turn from fear and/or hopelessness and have faith for breakthrough.
- ⊕ Ask the Lord for a gift of faith where your faith falls short.
- ⊕ Look for opportunities to serve others in the name of Jesus.
- ⊕ Be alert in the Spirit as you serve. Notice every response of the Holy Spirit.