

# Spiritual Gifts Activation Seminar

## *The Gifts of Word of Wisdom, Celibacy, Martyrdom*

### **The Gift of the Word of Wisdom**

- Definition: The gift of wisdom is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to know the mind of the Holy Spirit in such a way as to receive insight into how given knowledge may best be applied to specific needs arising in the body of Christ.
- Generally, natural wisdom is about knowing how to make good choices in life and it's developed through properly analyzing our experiences as well as being around wise people and learning from them.
- The Spiritual gift of wisdom is at a different level. Wisdom from heaven is "downloaded" into your spirit and you will spontaneously know what to say and what to do in a given moment. It will be like "wisdom beyond your years"

### **Examples of the Word of Wisdom**

- Shall we pay, or shall we not pay?" But He, [Jesus] knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why do you test Me? Bring Me a denarius that I may see it." So they brought it. And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" They said to Him, "Caesar's." And Jesus answered and said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at Him (Matt.22:18-22)
- And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen disputing with Stephen. And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke (Acts 6).

### **The Beauty of Wisdom**

- Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding; For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her. Length of days is in her right hand, In her left hand riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, And all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy are all who retain her (Prov. 3:13-18)

### **Words of Wisdom In Everyday Life**

- In solving family or marriage problems
- In fixing a mechanical problem, inventing something or solving a problem at work.
- In a money making idea.
- In confronting opposition to your faith
- The Holy Spirit inside of you is a great problem solver.

### **Acquiring Heavenly Wisdom**

- If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind (James 1:5,6)

### **The Gift of Celibacy**

- Definition: The gift of celibacy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to remain single and enjoy it; to be unmarried and not suffer undue sexual temptations.
- “But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another. So I say to those who aren’t married and to widows—it’s better to stay unmarried, just as I am. But if they can’t control themselves, they should go ahead and marry. It’s better to marry than to burn with lust”. (1 Cor. 7:7-9)
- “I want you to be free from the concerns of this life. An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord’s work and thinking how to please him. But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife” (vs. 32, 33)
- Having this gift allows one to devote more of his time, energy and passion to the Lord.
- Those in the Body of Christ with this gift are a small minority.
- Just because you are single you do not necessarily have the gift of celibacy.
- Neither single nor married believers are greater in the kingdom. They just have slightly different lifestyles. We should honor both.

### **The Gift of Martyrdom**

- Definition: The gift of martyrdom is the special ability that God has given to certain members of the body of Christ to undergo suffering for the faith even to death while consistently displaying a joyous and victorious attitude that brings glory of God.
- Jesus and most of His 12 disciples were martyrs.
- It has been said that the blood of the martyrs are the seeds of the church.
- Throughout church history it can be noted that wherever large numbers of Christians were martyred there has been great church growth.
- Among some persecuted groups it has been considered a great honor and desirous to give one’s life in this way for God’s glory.

### **Steven’s Gift of Martyrdom**

- And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel (Acts 6:15)
- And he [Steven] told them, “Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing in the place of honor at God’s right hand!” Then they put their hands over their ears and began shouting. They rushed at him and dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. As they stoned him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” He fell to his knees, shouting, “Lord, don’t charge them with this sin!” And with that, he died (Acts 7:56-59).