

The Spirit and Mission | The Gift | June 3, 2018



**Images used for illustrations*

Acts 1:8, Acts 2:1-4

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

- The Holy Spirit is the personal presence of God.
- We are called to learn to live by the energy and influence of God's Spirit.
- He fills us to spill us - The Spirit is given for Mission
- The Day of Pentecost was just that: THE HOLY SPIRIT drawing near.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

Spiritual gifts are given to us by God for specific purposes. Spiritual gifts are gracious endowments leading to miraculous results. We are uniquely gifted to help the whole body.

The Human Challenge:

We want Control. The root of that need for control is fear.

1. Fear of Man
2. Fear of God. - "God knows He is overwhelming to Mankind".
3. Fear of Making Mistakes

Next Steps in Spiritual Maturity

1. Determine to receive the Gifts in fullness - Don't deny the gifts because you don't understand. The Holy Spirit is not scary He is perfection.
2. Pray for the Gifts - 1 Corinthians 12:31 - Eagerly desire the best (most helpful) gifts.
3. Recognize when the gifts are given and being used.
4. Learn about the gifts within a christian community.
5. Practice

Discussion Questions:

1. What role does the gifts of the Holy Spirit play in your life?
2. Do you have any fear when it comes to the use of the gifts?
3. Do you think that God knows He is overwhelming to us?
4. In what ways have you been served by the gifts of the spirit?
5. In what ways have you seen the gifts operating in your life? What did that feel like? What was the result?
6. Why is best to discover and discuss the gifts of the spirit within a community?