

# Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

## The Holy Spirit

### Part 3

Paul began the twelfth chapter of 1 Corinthians with the statement: *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant.* He began the fourteenth chapter with the exhortation *desire spiritual gifts* proceeding with specific teachings of the proper use of spiritual gifts. May the study of this lesson be a glorious journey for you, taking you from the desire to **learn more** about the Holy Spirit to the desire to **have more** of the Holy Spirit.

#### DAY ONE: The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts

In today's lesson we will look to the Scriptures to answer some commonly asked questions. Read the verses supplied; then answer the questions.

##### Who does God give gifts to?

**1 Corinthians 7:7** .... *But each one has his own gift from God, one in this manner and another in that.*

**Ephesians 4:7** *But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.*

**1 Peter 4:10** *As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

Your answer:

##### How does He decide what gifts to give? Can we earn gifts? Are spiritual gifts a sign of spirituality?

**Romans 12:6** *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them...*

**1 Corinthians 12:11** *But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

**1 Corinthians 12:18** *But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.*

**Hebrews 2:4** *God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will...*

Your answer:

##### What is the purpose of the gifts?

**1 Corinthians 14:12** *Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.*

**1 Corinthians 14:26** *How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.*

**Ephesians 4:12-16** *for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; <sup>14</sup>that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, <sup>15</sup>but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ--<sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

Your answer:

### **Are spiritual gifts for the church today?**

Reread Ephesians 4:12-16. According to these verses, how long will the gifts be available?

When will we be perfect?

1 Corinthians 13 is sandwiched between Paul's teaching on spiritual gifts in chapters 12 and 14. Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-13 and answer the following:

1. According to 1 Corinthians 13:10, when will the gifts mentioned in verse 8 *fail*?
2. What does verse 12 add to this?
  - a. When will we see *face to face*? See 1 John 3:2
3. Considering these verses, what or who do you think the word *perfect* refers to?

### **DAY TWO: The Prepositions Describing the Work of the Holy Spirit**

There are basically four words used to describe the action of the Holy Spirit.

1. The Holy Spirit comes alongside. Verify this by highlighting or underlining the word *with* in John 14:16-17.

*And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever--<sup>17</sup>the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.*

2. Once a person becomes a believer, the Holy Spirit is *in* us, as Jesus foretold in John 14:17. Verify this truth by highlighting or underlining (in another color or pattern) the word *in* in John 14:17 above and also the word *into* in Galatians 4:6 below.

*And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"*

- a) Using the following verses, highlight or underline the position or role of the Holy Spirit.

**Ephesians 1:13** *In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,*

**1 John 3:9** *Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.*

**2 Timothy 1:14** *That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.*

1.) Summarize what these verses teach about the Holy Spirit.

3. Another preposition used to describe the action of the Holy Spirit is *upon*. Many refer to this as the baptism of the Holy Spirit, based on the statement of John the Baptist in **Luke 3:16** *John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will **baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire**.* Jesus referred to this in Acts 1:5 *John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.* Peter quoted this again in Acts 11:16 after the Holy Spirit fell *upon* believers.

Jesus referred to this *upon* experience as the *Promise of My Father*. Read the following verses and record what they teach about this *Promise*.

**Luke 24:49** *Behold, I send the **Promise of My Father** upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."*

**Acts 1:4** *And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the **Promise of the Father**, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me;*

**Acts 2:33** *Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the **promise of the Holy Spirit**, He poured out this which you now see and hear.*

- a. Notice the word *upon* in Luke 24:29. Highlight or underline this word as it is used in the book of Acts. Note: these are the only incidences in the New Testament that record the *coming upon* of the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 1:8** *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

**Acts 8:15-16** *who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>16</sup>For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

**Acts 10:44** *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.*

**Acts 11:15,16** *And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'*

**Acts 19:6** *And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

Challenge: Read the verses that followed each of the references above and record what you discovered.

4. Although the word *filled* is not a preposition, this action of the Holy Spirit is important to note. The book of Acts mentions the word *filled* as it refers to the Holy Spirit seven times. Six are supplied to you below. Highlight or underline the word *filled*.

**Acts 2:4** *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

**Acts 4:8** *Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, Rulers of the people and elders of Israel:*

**Acts 4:31** *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*

**Acts 9:17** *And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."*

**Acts 13:9** *Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him*

**Acts 13:52** *And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.*

Challenge: Read each of these verses in context and record what you learned about the filling of the Holy Spirit.

- a. The use of the word *filled* in Acts indicates a onetime action. The only time the word is used in the epistles referring to the Holy Spirit is in Ephesians 5:18 *And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be **filled** with the Spirit.* The verb tense here indicates a continuous action; i.e. be being filled, be continuously filled with the Holy Spirit. The verb also indicates that this is a command for the believer to do, not something that God just does. What does this say to you personally about being *filled* with the Holy Spirit?

5. What have you learned about these four works of the Holy Spirit?

### DAY THREE: Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. *Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts...* 1 Corinthians 14:1. Because the believer is to *desire spiritual gifts*, it is important that we understand what they are. References to *spiritual gifts* can be found in Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4. Because each list is not exactly the same, it is believed that these are examples of gifts, but do not include all the gifts of the Holy Spirit. *Gifts* are given to edify the believer and the body of Christ.

Read the following passages and list the gifts mentioned. Note: each portion of Scripture not only lists the gifts, but also reveals other important information about the giving of gifts.

Romans 12:3-8

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Ephesians 4:7-16

Challenge: Record other information revealed about the giving of gifts that you discovered from these verses.

## DAY FOUR: Misuse of Spiritual Gifts

1. Paul began 1 Corinthians 14 with the exhortation to *desire spiritual gifts*. Within the chapter he addressed various aspects of the misuse of gifts. Read the following verses. Below each verse describe what may have been the problem experienced or caused by those in the church of Corinth. Note: many of these verses are instructions. Based on these instructions, record what you think may have been happening or may have been Paul's concerns.

**1 Corinthians 14:12** *Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.*

**1 Corinthians 14:26** *How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.*

**1 Corinthians 14:27** *If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret.*

**1 Corinthians 14:28** *But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.*

**1 Corinthians 14:29** *Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.*

**1 Corinthians 14:31** *For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged.*

**1 Corinthians 14:34-35** *Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says. <sup>35</sup>And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church.*

**1 Corinthians 14:39** *Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.*

**1 Corinthians 14:40** *Let all things be done decently and in order.*

2. How might some of these actions/attitudes provoke disorder and disunity in the church?

## **DAY FIVE: The Gift of Tongues**

1. The gift of tongues is the most controversial of all of the gifts. Apparently, it has been that way since the first century church. 1 Corinthians 12 and 14 deal with the gift of tongues as it is used in the church setting. These chapters reveal that the gift of tongues was often misused in the church setting. Other than in 1 Corinthians 12-14, the word *tongues* is mentioned only four other times in the Bible. Highlight the word *tongues* in the following verses.

**Mark 16:17** *And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;*

**Acts 2:3-4,11** *Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs--we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.*

**Acts 10:46** *For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,*

**Acts 19:6** *And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

a. Note: Acts 2:11 and Acts 10:46 reveal what they spoke in *tongues*. What did they do?

1.) According to 1 Corinthians 14:2, who does the one who speaks in *tongues* speak to?

a.) Therefore, according to Acts 2:11, Acts 10:46, and 1 Corinthians 14:2, what is the gift of *tongues* used for?

2. *Tongues* is referred to in 1 Corinthians 12 three times. Two of these times we find *tongues* listed among the gifts of the Spirit. The third time *tongues* is used in this chapter is in verse 30 where Paul poses a question about gifts being used in the church setting. It is important to understand that Paul is not stating that all do not speak in *tongues*. The word *tongues* is used twice in 1 Corinthians 13 as it is compared with the best gift, that of *love*. We have printed below each verse in 1 Corinthians 14 which uses the word *tongues*. Highlight or underline *tongues* and answer the questions that follow.

a. **1 Corinthians 14:2** *For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.*

The person who speaks in a tongue speaks in the spirit. What does he speak?

b. **1 Corinthians 14:4-6** *He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. <sup>5</sup>I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification. <sup>6</sup>But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching?*

**1 Corinthians 14:9** *So likewise you, unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air.*

Who does the one who speaks in a tongue edify? (in a personal setting, or when there is no interpretation)

Who does the one who speaks in a tongue edify? (if there is an interpretation)

- c. **1 Corinthians 14:13-14** *Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. <sup>14</sup>For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.*

If a person speaks in a tongue what is he to pray?

Why?

- d. **1 Corinthians 14:18-19** *I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all; <sup>19</sup>yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.*

What was Paul thankful for?

How do we know that he is referring to his personal prayer times? See the three letter word that begins verse 19.

In the church setting what would Paul *rather* do?

- e. **1 Corinthians 14:22-23** *Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe. <sup>23</sup>Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?*

1 Corinthians 14:22 is one of the most difficult passages in the New Testament to understand. The words in verse 23 seem to contradict the words of verse 22. Therefore, our question will be based on verse 23. Verse 23 reveals one of the many problems of more than one person speaking in tongues at once. *If the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, what will the uninformed or unbelievers say?*

- f. **1 Corinthians 14:26-27** *How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. <sup>27</sup>If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret.*

What is Paul's solution to the problem set forth in 1 Corinthians 14:23?

- g. **1 Corinthians 14:39** *Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.*

Considering all of the problems speaking in tongues can cause, what is Paul's conclusion?

3. There are two other references that may possibly refer to praying in tongues. Read the following verses and answer the questions below.

**Romans 8:26** *Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

**Jude 1:20** *But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,*  
What does the Spirit do? Romans 8:26

What are we to do? Jude 1:20

- a. Praying in tongues is not the only way to pray *in the Spirit*. Praying *in the Holy Spirit* may refer to praying with sensitivity to or praying prayers led by the Holy Spirit. However, what does 1 Corinthians 14:14-15 teach that might lead us to understand that praying in tongues is praying *in the Spirit*?

**1 Corinthians 14:14-15** *For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. <sup>15</sup>What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.*

## **DAY SIX: Ponder These Things**

1. What are some questions you have after doing this homework?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What are some things you discovered or learned?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. In what ways have you been stirred to learn more or seek more the *gifts of the Holy Spirit*?



*But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:*  
- 1 Corinthians 12:7