

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Back when the great evangelizer Paul (1) was traveling about while preaching the Good News (2) of Jesus Christ (3), not a whole lot of our Savior's teachings were written down. This led to confusion and false teachings (4). In order to correct abuses concerning the spiritual gifts taking place within the church at Corinth, Paul devoted much attention to this topic in his First Epistle to the Corinthians as outlined in chapters 12-14 ([1 Corinthians 12-14](#)).

[1 Corinthians 12:1-11 \(NIV\)](#): "Now about the **gifts of the Spirit**, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, 'Jesus be cursed,' and no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of **Wisdom**, to another a message of **Knowledge** by means of the same Spirit, to another **Faith** by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **Healing** by that one Spirit, to another **Miraculous Powers**, to another **Prophecy**, to another **Distinguishing between Spirits**, to another **Speaking in Different Kinds of Tongues**, and to still another the **Interpretation of Tongues**. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines."

In baptism, we receive an infusion of all of the Gifts but- similar to presents tucked underneath the Christmas tree- they must be unwrapped, opened and utilized for their full potential to be realized. Otherwise, they operate on half speed (at best), accomplishing only a fraction of what God intended them to fulfill.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

While there are pockets of Christian folks who focus more intently on the differences between their own religious denomination and that of their neighbor, we make every effort to reconcile what Christians do agree on- which is an overwhelming majority of the Holy Scriptures. Amen? However, delving into the Gifts of the Holy Spirit can be one of those thorny areas, as some Christian denominations do not believe in some of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned in the Bible. Their view is that those Gifts (*example: Speaking in Tongues*) died out in first century Christianity and is no longer in operation.

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As the primary Mission of Downriver Disciples is to bring unsaved souls to Jesus Christ (the Great Commission - ([Matthew 28:16-20](#)), we offer what the Good News tells us *in its entirety*. Our belief, first and foremost, is that we are to bring others to the Banquet Table of Jesus Christ by way of preaching and teaching the whole Gospel, without leaving parts of it on the side of the spiritual roadway while en route to God's Kingdom.

[James 1:17](#) tells us that all gifts are from the Father, who does not change; [1 Peter 4:10-11](#) beseeches us to share those gifts with others. Do these Scriptures (or any others) have an expiration date? We leave that for personal discernment.

Our Christian Unity webpage (5) lists dozens of Scriptures exhorting the critical nature of us Christians being united with another. The opposite of being UNITED is to be DIVIDED, which is exactly what Satan wants us to be. There's no middle ground in this arena. We're serving one or the other. Let the words of [Joshua 24:15](#) ring in our ears and hearts!

Footnotes:

- (1) The Apostle Paul <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/ambassador-in-chains>
- (2) Holy Bible <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/the-good-news>
- (3) Jesus Christ <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/jesus-christ>
- (4) False Teachers <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/false-teachers>
- (5) Christian Unity <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/christian-unity>

Related Links:

- The Holy Spirit <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/the-holy-spirit>
- Fruits of the Holy Spirit <http://www.downriverdisciples.com/fruits-of-the-holy-spirit>

Modifications to this document are welcome at goodnews@downriverdisciples.com.

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<http://www.downriverdisciples.com/gifts-of-the-holy-spirit>

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SCRIPTURES RELEVANT TO THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

All Scriptures linked below appear in canonical order.

The Gifts [Nehemiah 9:20](#), [Luke 11:13](#), [Acts of the Apostles 2:38-39](#), [Acts of the Apostles 10:44-45](#), [Romans 1:10-12](#), [Romans 5:5](#), [Romans 12:3-8](#), [1 Corinthians 1:7](#), [1 Corinthians 2:12](#), [1 Corinthians 12:1-31](#), [Hebrews 2:4](#), [1 Peter 4:10-11](#).

Wisdom [1 Kings 3:28](#), [Job 28:28](#), [Psalms 111:10](#), [Proverbs 1:7](#), [Proverbs 23:9](#), [Proverbs 23:23](#), [Proverbs 24:3-4](#), [Proverbs 24:14](#), [Romans 11:33](#), [1 Corinthians 3:19-20](#), [James 1:4-5](#).

Knowledge [Proverbs 1:7](#), [Proverbs 9:10](#), [Proverbs 12:1](#), [Proverbs 12:23](#), [1 Corinthians 8:1-8](#), [1 Corinthians 13:1-8](#), [Ephesians 4:11-16](#), [2 Peter 1:1-8](#).

Faith [Mark 11:22-24](#), [Romans 10:17](#), [2 Corinthians 5:7](#), [Ephesians 2:8](#), [Hebrews 11:1](#), [Hebrews 11:6](#), [James 2:14-16](#).

Healing [Mark 5:1-20](#), [Mark 5:21-43](#), [Luke 6:17-19](#), [Luke 9:1](#), [Acts 5:16](#), [Acts 19:11-12](#), [1 Corinthians 12:9](#), [1 Corinthians 12:28-31](#), [James 5:14-15](#).

Miraculous Powers [Exodus 14:13-22](#), [Psalms 77:14](#), [Matthew 10:1](#), [Mark 16:17](#), [Luke 9:1-2](#), [John 4:48](#), [John 14:12](#), [Acts 2:22](#), [Acts 19:11](#).

Prophecy [Deuteronomy 18:18-22](#), [Joel 2:28](#), [Amos 3:7](#), [Luke 22:64](#), [Romans 12:6](#), [1 Corinthians 14:1](#), [1 Corinthians 14:12](#), [1 Corinthians 14:37](#), [2 Peter 1:21](#).

Distinguishing between Spirits [Mark 16:20](#), [Acts 16:16-18](#), [1 Corinthians 14:29](#), [Ephesians 4:11-13](#), [Hebrews 4:12](#), [1 John 4:1](#), [Revelation 19:10](#).

Speaking in Different Kinds of Tongues [Isaiah 28:11-12](#), [Mark 16:15-18](#), [Acts 2:1-4](#), [Acts 10:45-46](#), [1 Corinthians 12:28-31](#), [1 Corinthians 13:1](#), [1 Corinthians 14](#), [1 John 4:1-3](#).

Interpretation of Tongues [Romans 8:26](#), [1 Corinthians 12:10](#), [1 Corinthians 12:30](#), [1 Corinthians 14:13](#), [1 Corinthians 14:27](#).