



Activating the 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit (Part 2)

In my last article I said, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for every believer. The right gift is activated at the right moment. God wants us to demonstrate His love through the gifts of the Spirit. God wants to bless the body of Christ and people need to know Jesus is alive.

When you first believed and asked Jesus to come into your heart, when you first surrendered your life to Him He sent the Holy Spirit to live within you. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a further infilling. It can be compared to a glass that is half full and then the Lord pours more of His presence into us and we are full to overflowing. His Presence starts bubbling up within us. That is often when we start to see more evidence of the spiritual gifts within us but the Lord can use us any time He desires to if we are willing to yield to Him. But the closer we come to Him the more sensitive we become to the gentle promptings of Holy Spirit. I have heard it said that the Holy Spirit speaks in wisps, that is, half a whisper.

Every believer that has received the baptism of the Holy Spirit is able to speak in tongues and to prophesy. But as I said in part 1 sometimes there is some inner healing that needs to take place first before we are willing to give Him control to use us. I was the last of the hold outs, three years later I finally started speaking in tongues after receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Thank you Lord that you never give up on us!

When we speak in tongues the Holy Spirit is speaking through us. It is the Holy Spirit's utterance through you. He bypasses our brain and just uses our voice organs to speak. They have done studies of people speaking in tongues and there isn't the electrical activity there normally is when someone is speaking in the speech area of their brain since our brain isn't involved. David Pitches said, "The gift of tongues is spontaneous, inspired utterance by the Holy Spirit. Normal vocal organs are used but the conscious mind plays no part. The languages spoken are entirely unlearned by the speaker. Every time we speak in tongues we are a walking, talking miracle!

Sam Storms said, "Tongues is neither God's greatest gift to His most highly favored children nor is it a sinister weapon of the devil. It is not a sign of superior zeal or commitment. Tongues is just one way that the apostle Paul called manifestations of the Holy Spirit. Speaking in tongues doesn't make you elite. It just positions you to go higher.

There are several reasons why we should speak in tongues. Speaking in tongues edifies us, it builds us up as the Holy Spirit prays the perfect prayer through us. Often we are praying praises to God. **Jude 20-21 "But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you eternal life."**

The Lord can also use this gift for evangelism as He did on the day of Pentecost. **Acts 2:4-6 "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken."** After Peter preached the salvation message to them about three thousand people accepted

Beyond the basic gift of tongues for our edification there are warrior tongues. This is very powerful prayer said against the wiles of the enemy. I have been praying in an edification tongue praising God when the Holy Spirit suddenly changed it into a warrior tongue. You can tell immediately that He is praying a very powerful prayer through you to rebuke the powers of darkness.

The gift of tongues can also be used for exhortation and comfort. It proves that Jesus is alive and is a sign of the resurrection of the Lord. It is also a sign of yielding to God, yielding your tongue to God. The Bible says no man can control the tongue but with speaking in tongues you are saying, "Lord do what you want to my tongue, pray through me, help me exalt You, tame my tongue, I'm giving my tongue to you." It is a surrendering to God. Tongues can also be a sign of repentance and a sign of accepting the Holy Spirit as it was on the day of Pentecost when three thousand people repented and were baptized.

Every other spiritual gift is in the OT but the gift of tongues is not in the OT because this was first given on Pentecost. The gift of tongues is also a fulfillment of prophesy. **Isaiah 28:11 "With foreign lips and strange tongues God will speak to His people."** Paul quoted Isaiah in **I Cor 14:2 "for anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit."**

God wants to have a personal relationship with each one of us. Our Heavenly Father sent Jesus to die for our sins so this would be possible. Our Creator is more mighty than we can begin to comprehend but He loves us with His incredible, everlasting love and wants so very much to have a close relationship with His children and teach us His ways. He does not expect us to get through this life without His help. Life here on earth can be very hard but we are sons and daughters of the King of heaven, called to do the impossible

Prayer List

Adele Arroyo - Cancer
Clinton Blazeovich - continued prayer for recovery of heart transplant surgery
Amy Donachy - please pray for health & healing
Tina Drane - please pray for health & healing
Lisa Hill - pray for healing and strength
Nichole Hughes & newborn son, Huxton - many complications, pray for healing & God's grace
Carol Huth - please pray for her general health
J.J. Jarvis - VA Hospital, also pray for Sarah
Bryson Kelly - 2 year old - pray for weight & height growth and development
Zack Kosor - pray for good health
Dan Prior - pray for good health
Sue Signore - please pray for her health

Please also pray for all those affected by covid-19, our friends, families, neighbors.

**For our Daily Prayer Chain,
please Call Donna Tantlinger -
724-224-8989**

Birthday List

July 5th	Adam Blythe
July 6th	Gray Blythe
July 6th	Tani Cullaj
July 7th	Tristan Schwabenbauer
July 10th	Laurie Saxon
July 18th	Bonnie Rearick
July 25th	Carol Huth
July 27th	Ray Waldenville
July 29th	Christine Drane
July 30th	Mila Archer

Anniversaries

July 9th	Dan & Lisa Prior
July 25th	Jim & Julie Kovalcik

***Send a card or greeting or give a call to any of these folks on their special day!
It will surely bless them!!!***