LEARNING TO FUNCTION IN THE 9 GIFTS

OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, 1 COR.12:4-11

INTRODUCTION: These are 9 gifts given by the Holy Spirit, to enable us to do the supernatural works of God. We need to learn how to function in these gifts.

THERE ARE 3 CLASSES OR GROUPS OF THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

 A. THE SPOKEN GIFTS: 1. Tongues

 2. Interpretation of Tongues

 3. Prophecy

 B. THE REVELATION GIFTS: 4. Word of Wisdom

 5. Word of Knowledge

 6. Discerning of Spirits

 C. THE POWER GIFTS: 7. Faith

 8. Gifts of Healing

 9. Working of Miracles

 **A. THE SPOKEN GIFTS:** These are the simplest gifts, the easiest to enter into and learn to use. (The power gifts are the most powerful & difficult, and require more maturity). The spoken gifts all involve having the Holy Spirit direct and anoint our speech.

STEPS OF WISDOM TO MINISTER IN THE SPOKEN GIFTS:

 1) Seek and receive the gifts of the Spirit, 1 Cor.14:1, Mt.7:7.

 2) Seek the Lord for the anointing of the Holy Spirit to move through the gift, 2 Tim.1:6.

 3) In your private prayer life, see if the Lord will anoint you and teach you the use of these gifts, Lk.12:3.

 4) If you feel that you may have the anointing to use a gift in a service, be sensitive to speak in the right timing during the service, 1 Cor.14:31-33, Eccl.3:1 & 7. While you are learning, it is wise to check with the spiritual leadership of the service, to gain their guidance, Prov.11:14.

 5) Speak in faith (Rom.12:6) and speak clearly, 1 Cor.14:8-9.

 6) Be sensitive to STOP when you feel the anointing stop or the burden lift, Eccl.5:1-2, Gal.3:3, Prov.29:20.

 7) See if the Holy Spirit leads other people to do or speak the same thing that you feel to do, 2 Cor.13:1. These confirmations will help you to learn how to use the gifts also!

 8) Afterwards ask the spiritual leadership of the service for their evaluation, and be open to learn from their counsel, 1 Thess.5:20-21, 1 Cor.14:29. Perhaps they will feel:

 a) You were not anointed by the Holy Spirit (from your own spirit only, or perhaps even from an evil spirit).

 b) The message was not appropriate in timing or in content.

 c) The message you received from God was only a private message for you.

 **B. THE REVELATION GIFTS:** These gifts involve having the Holy Spirit give us revelation about things that we do not naturally know.

\* The revelation gifts are separate from, but can work together with, the spoken gifts.

\* The Lord wants every Christian to grow in wisdom (Jam.1:5), knowledge (2 Pet.1:5), and discernment (Heb.5:14) even if we do not have the revelation gifts operating in our life. But the gifts are where in a specific circumstance or time the Holy Spirit quickens something to us that can be far beyond our present level or skill of wisdom, knowledge, and discernment. There is no "guessing" or "maybe" then!

KEYS OF WISDOM, TO FUNCTION IN THE REVELATION GIFTS:

1) How can someone receive a revelation from one of these gifts?

 a. God can speak a word or thought directly to your heart, Acts 10:19-20.

 b. The Holy Spirit may give the witness to your heart, that a scripture or a

 scriptural principle is for a specific occasion, Acts 2:16, 16:18.

 c. You may receive a dream or a vision, Acts 16:9-10.

 d. You may hear something supernaturally by the Spirit, 1 Kings 18:41.

 e. You may feel something by the Spirit, such as a sickness that someone has which the Lord is revealing because God wants to heal them.

2) How can someone minister a revelation?

 a. Sometimes the revelation can be prophesied during a service, Acts 11:26-28.

 b. Sometimes a revelation can be the basis for preaching a message, 1 Cor.14:6.

 c. Sometimes a revelation should be shared in a counseling session, Jn.4:17-18.

 d. Sometimes a revelation should not be shared with anyone, it is a secret from the Lord to warn you, guide you, or encourage you to pray, Jn.6:70-71.

3) How can we test or prove that we have a revelation gift?

 a. Let spiritual leadership that flows in these gifts judge your revelation, 1 Cor.14:29.

 b. See if others confirm your revelation by receiving similar revelations, 2 Cor.13:1.

 c. Use the "test of time". Did your revelation come to pass? Jeremiah 32:6-8, 28:9.

**C. THE POWER GIFTS:** The gifts of faith, healing, and miracles bring supernatural demonstrations of the power of God. They are given to demonstrate the truth of the Gospel, Lk.5:23-25, Acts 13:6-12. They are to protect and help the saints, Mt.15:32, 2 Chron.16:9. They can bring repentance and revival, Lk.6:17-19, Acts 8:5-8.

 KEYS OF WISDOM, TO FUNCTION IN THE POWER GIFTS:

1) Fasting can be a key to enter into the power gifts, Lk.4:1 & 14, Mk.9:29. Moses, Elijah, & Jesus (who all had great power in their ministries) all fasted for 40 days!

2) Receive from men & women of God who have consistent power gifts, 2 Kings 2:9-15; Lk.10:1,9,17-19.

3) Investigate the results of how you have tried to move in the power gifts, 1 Thess.5:19,21; Luke 5:14. Learn the difference between faith & presumption.

 THE GREATEST KEY TO FUNCTION IN ALL OF THE GIFTS:

Let all the gifts operate out of the motivation of the "agape" love of God, 1 Cor.12:31, 13:1-3, 14:1. This attitude of heart will keep the gifts pure and edifying in all things, Rom.13:10.