

The Gifts Of The Spirit

Small Group Discussion Guide

"The Gifts of the Spirit" -- Pastor Mirek Hufton

1. SERMON RECAP

In this message, I challenged us to stop being ignorant of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and to understand that they are not just for pastors or ministers -- they are for every single believer. The nine gifts of the Spirit are weapons God has given us to bless other people, and they flow best through a yielded, praying vessel. I made it clear that praying in the Holy Ghost is the bedrock that sensitizes our spirit and opens us up to flowing in all the gifts.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NKJV)

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all."

3. ICE BREAKER

Have you ever experienced a moment -- maybe a gut feeling, an unexpected word from someone, or a surprising answer to prayer -- where you thought, "That had to be God"? Share what happened!

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Getting Honest About Ignorance

I said the church has been "really remiss" when it comes to teaching the gifts of the Spirit. Before hearing this message, how much did you actually know about the nine gifts? What shaped your understanding -- or lack of it -- growing up?

2. "Every Man" -- That Means You

I kept coming back to the phrase "every man" from 1 Corinthians 12:11 -- that the Spirit distributes gifts to each one individually. Does it feel natural or uncomfortable to think of yourself as someone God wants to use in the gifts? What makes it feel that way?

3. Gifts Are for Blessing Others

I said the gifts are not about strutting around or showing off -- they exist to bless people. Can you think of a real-life situation this past week -- at work, at school, in your neighbourhood -- where a word of knowledge, a word of wisdom, or even a simple Spirit-led word of encouragement could have made a difference for someone?

4. The Vessel Matters

I talked about how the cleaner and more yielded our vessel is, the more freely the gifts can flow. What do you think "keeping your vessel clean" looks like in practical, everyday terms -- not in a legalistic way, but in a genuine, heart-level way?

5. Praying in the Holy Ghost as the Starting Point

I said that praying in the Holy Ghost is the bedrock -- the ground-level entry point into the gifts. For those of you who pray in tongues, how intentional and consistent is that in your daily life? For those who don't yet, what questions or hesitations do you have about it?

6. Decent and in Order

I was pretty direct about the fact that the gifts need to operate with wisdom, accountability, and order -- and that abuse or weirdness has caused a lot of people to pull back from the gifts altogether. How do we create a culture in our small group and in our church where people feel both free to step out and safe from flakiness? What does healthy look like to you?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, set aside 10 minutes each day specifically to pray in the Holy Spirit -- not as part of your general prayer time, but as a dedicated, focused block. As you do, ask God out loud: "Holy Spirit, I want to be used in your gifts. Show me one person this week I can bless." Then stay alert. If you sense something -- a word, an impression, a nudge to pray for someone -- act on it and write down what happened. Bring your notes back to share with the group next week.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for hunger: Ask God to stir up a genuine desire in every group member to pursue the gifts -- not for show, but out of love for people and passion for Jesus.
 - Pray for clean vessels: Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal anything in each person's heart or life that might be blocking the flow of His gifts, and ask for the grace to yield those areas to God.
 - Pray for boldness to step out: Ask God to give the group specific opportunities this week to be used in a gift -- and the courage to act when the moment comes, rather than talking themselves out of it.
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7. MEMORY VERSE

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NKJV)

"Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts."

Leader's Note: Your job this week isn't to have all the answers about the gifts -- it's to create a safe space where people can be honest about where they are and excited about where God is taking them. Let the conversation breathe. The Holy Spirit is welcome here!